

# THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

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## Guilty verdict could force Mayor Dixon from office

By HUSAIN DANISH  
Magazine Editor

On Tuesday, Baltimore mayor Sheila Dixon was found guilty on one count of embezzlement in connection with her use of gift cards intended to help needy families.

The jury's decision caps an investigation of the Baltimore Democrat that began in June of 2008.

After deliberating for six days, the jury found Dixon guilty of using \$630 worth of gift cards for personal expenses. According to the prosecution, the mayor used the money to buy electronics, including a Playstation 2 and Xbox, clothing and other items. Many did not expect the jury to take this long to reach their final decision.

"I think the jury was being very deliberate when examining the evidence and reaching a decision," said James Cabezas, chief investigator for the Maryland State Prosecutor's Office. The jury also acquitted Dixon of two counts felony theft and one count of misconduct in office. Jurors failed to reach a verdict on a second count of fraudulent misappropriation by a fiduciary.

In a statement released by Dixon shortly after the verdict, she emphasized that she plans, for now, to continue with her responsibilities as mayor.

"The jury's verdict today does not impact my responsibility to continue serving and I remain focused on keeping Baltimore on course in these trying economic times," Dixon said.

"I want the people of this great city to know that my administration is fortunate to have a talented and dedicated team of professionals running city agencies and departments. Like me, my team remains focused on the everyday business of this city."

The single count of embezzlement carries a maximum sentence of five years. According to Cabezas, after the judge sets a sentencing date, a pre-sentence report will be prepared by the State's Attorney's Office. This process will take from four to eight weeks. It is not clear if the prosecution will seek jail time.

"Once the sentencing date occurs, the defense will argue for leniency," Cabezas explained.

"The state attorney's office will ask for the punishment [it] believes is appropriate for the crime."

In a statement released from the steps of the court house after  
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After an Aramark employee was allegedly fired for missing work while sick, workers are concerned about the status of their jobs.

## Aramark employees fear loss of jobs

By LAURA MUTH  
News & Features Editor

Aramark employees have been coming to work sick out of fear for their jobs, according to several workers, including one who was fired earlier this semester.

Aramark, the company that provides Hopkins' dining facilities, has been partnered with the University since July 1, 2006.

For about three years, almost the entire time Aramark has been at Hopkins, Edward Harris worked for the company. That changed on Oct. 29 of this year, after he was out of work for two days with an arm injury.

"The doctor excused me for two days from work," he said. "But when I came back they already had the idea to fire me."

Harris said that the official rea-

son his position with Aramark was terminated was tardiness, but that when he arrived his first day back after his injury security was already waiting and his supervisor had already written his last check.

"They actually had security escort me off-campus," he said.

Harris complained to Unite HERE! 7, the local branch of the union for workers in the hospitality, gaming,  
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## Despite restriction, University students able to study in Cuba

By TARIQ NOAMAN  
Staff Writer

Exactly how 'grande' are the academic interactions between Hopkins students and faculty with this robust island nation? More specifically, is it possible for a Hopkins student to study in Cuba under a study abroad program?

Surprisingly the answer is yes, according to senior philosophy major Graham Ellis.

Ellis took Spanish classes at the University of Havana over a 10 week period this past summer. Impassioned by what he believed were the "truly noble ideals" of the Cuban Revolution, Ellis sought to study in Cuba to see how these ideals play out in the daily Cuban experience. The processes through which he was able to study in Cuba was rather complicated, however.

"Hopkins has a valid license that enables students to study in Cuba,"

said Lori Citti, director for study abroad programs at Hopkins. "However as of now, 'There is no 'study abroad program' in Cuba."

Citti noted, however that despite restrictions that the Department of the Treasury has imposed on study abroad programs offered at other universities (Harvard being a prime example), it is possible for a Hopkins student to study in Cuba through direct enrollment in a Cuban university under the Hopkins license. This is exactly what Ellis was able to do thanks to two years of research on US legislation against Cuba, specifically on travel restrictions to Cuba.

When Ellis first notified the Office of Study Abroad of his intention to study in Cuba, he was told that there was no possibility. The Bush administration had already eliminated nearly all channels  
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**Hopkins has a  
valid license that  
enables students to  
study in Cuba**

— Lori Citti,  
Study Abroad Director

## Equestrian club brings horse riding to Hopkins

By MARIE CUSHING  
Editor-in-Chief

When Maya Jabbour and Amy Lee met through therapeutic riding, they both lamented that there was no equestrian team at Hopkins. Lee mentioned that she knew of three horses up for sale.

So they bought them. That's right. Two college students bought three horses.

"Of all the schools I applied to, Hopkins was the only one that did not have a riding team. That was something I used to look at as a down-side," Jabbour said. "[Then] I got to view this as an opportunity to do something big."

Though the cost of a thoroughbred horse can range anywhere from several thousand dollars up to the equivalent of a Hopkins education, the team has been very fortunate — and frugal.

They negotiated the cost of two horses down to just a few hundred dollars each, and on Wednesday they got a free lease on a fourth horse valued at \$40,000.

"Amy knows so many people. She's very well-connected in the horse world," Jabbour said.

Still, the two students are paying for these horses completely out of pocket with no financial support from Hopkins. They hope to get reimbursed through member dues, lesson fees and fundraising.

"It's an investment we made. We knew going in what we're getting ourselves into," Jabbour said. "I've never owned my own horse, so I've been learning about what it takes to own a horse and what it takes to train a horse."

Jabbour has been riding since she was eight, but was not heavily involved in competitions, preferring to spend time working at horse camps and leading lessons. This has helped her out with the Hopkins team, where many of the riders are beginners.  
SEE HORSES, PAGE B10

## Hit and run driver Meighan indicted

By SARAH TAN  
News & Features Editor

On Nov. 25 Thomas Meighan, the driver of the vehicle that struck and killed Hopkins junior Miriam Frankl, was indicted by a Baltimore City Grand Jury.

According to a press release by the state attorney's office, Meighan has been charged with automobile manslaughter, four counts of leaving the scene of an accident, one count of failure to render aid, two counts of driving on a suspended license and two counts of driving a vehicle without an interlock device.

Meighan is currently being held without bail in the Baltimore Detention Center and faces a maximum penalty of 35 years in prison. This sentence includes charges held against him from an earlier driving offense that occurred in July after he left the scene of a serious bodily injury caused by his driving that occurred on the Gwynn's Falls Parkway.

Of the 35-year sentence he faces, 10 of those years are a result of the charge of automobile manslaughter that occurred in October.

These charges came as a result of evidence gathered over the past six weeks following

the death of Frankl, as well as from the accounts of many witnesses who offered information after hearing about the tragic events.

"We are very appreciative of the many witnesses that have stepped forward as a response to the many media reports after the tragedy, and who have aided in the investigation," Margaret Burns, spokesperson for the State's Attorney's Office, said.

According to Burns, Meighan will be arraigned in mid-December, but his trial will be sometime early next year.

In addition, after reviewing the initial call reporting Meighan's erratic driving earlier in the day as he made his way up Broadway St, some officials feel the call was mishandled by police, and that the operator who fielded the call neglected to send an officer to properly investigate the claim.

"I don't think 'mishandled' is the right term," Anthony Guglielmi, spokesperson for the Baltimore Police Department, said.

"We have questions that we want answered, and we don't know if there's any wrongdoing at this point. What the chief of patrol has ordered is a command investigation, he's  
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FILE PHOTO

The renovations to Gilman are scheduled to be completed in time for fall 2010.

## Tour reveals new Gilman will be greener and brighter

By ADAM ZELDIN  
Staff Writer

Gilman Hall has been under construction for as long as the freshmen and sophomore classes have attended Hopkins. The News-Letter caught up with Martin Kajic, Facilities Program Manager and Gilman project manager for KSAS.

Kajic led this reporter through Gilman demonstrating specific changes that have been made to the building to make it more accessible and environmentally friendly, as well as restorative upgrades designed to maintain the historical charm of the building.

The building's renovations are on track to be complete by summer 2010, to allow use during the fall 2010 semester. "It will be ready for the fall [2010] academic semester, and I think the official ceremony won't be until October at a Trustees' meeting, but that is yet to be determined," Kajic said.

The building is also on track to gain a Silver LEED Certification from the United States Green Building Council. The silver certification is above gold and platinum level certification.

"Gilman is the first renovated building on the Homewood campus that is attaining a LEED certification," Kajic said.

The LEED certification is a holistic process that awards points for many different things. Gilman will utilize cutting-edge technology to attain its ranking.

"We're putting in energy efficient systems that are controlled through smart controls and occupancy sensors. If somebody is in their office and they leave and they forget to turn off their lights or heat, that will go off if it's not occupied for a period of time. So we're not wasting energy," Kajic said.

A new mechanical basement was dug.

Lighting levels will automatically adjust based on ambient light. "We are also, in certain areas of the building, where there's a lot of light coming in, such as the Hut and perimeter offices doing daylight harvesting. Daylight harvesting sees the amount of natural light coming into a space and starts to slowly dim your lights, so you're having energy reductions there," Kajic said.

Electricity isn't the only utility that will be saved. "We're putting low flow toilets in the building — so we're achieving water savings," Kajic said.

No project is truly green without recycling. "We're reusing some materials. The stacks had marble in the aisle ways  
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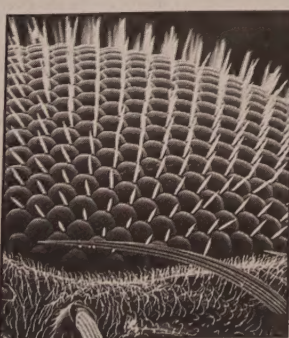
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## NEWS &amp; FEATURES

## Live Entertainment Bill instated

By KENSING NG AND  
SARAH TAN  
Staff Writers

On Monday the Baltimore city council released the Live Entertainment Bill. The bill will allow restaurants and bars to host live entertainment, in hopes that it would help revitalize the city's local economy.

In the past, commercial establishments near Baltimore's residential areas were prohibited from hosting live entertainment due to the risk of noise pollution.

However, the nature of Baltimore City's gradual expansion has resulted in a mix of commercial establishments and residential areas, sometimes making it difficult for establishments to keep their music down for residents. The city council needed to find a way to improve local entertainment without offending local residents.

"I would like to see more live entertainment," Councilman Bill Henry said, "but I would like to see it increased in as community-friendly a way as possible because so many of our commercial entertainment destinations are right up against residential areas."

Initially, the bill would have created licensing procedures for live entertainment. However, the bill that was passed in October regulates live entertainment via zoning. The difference is that a license is only valid for the establishment that applied for it, whereas a zoning rule applies to the location itself and is still valid for the new owner when the location changes hands.

"This is a huge tool because it gives bar and restaurant owners an incentive to be good neighbors. I don't think the original bill went far enough to protect neighborhoods against problem establishments," Councilman William Cole said.

However, Henry, who was a cosponsor on the original version of the bill, supported the licensing method over the zoning method. "We should regulate live entertainment same way we regulate liquor," he said.

"The license doesn't go with the property; it goes with operator. By regulating it through zoning, the bill discourages communities from working with live entertainment operators to find ways to work together."

Jennifer Erickson, President of the Charles Village Civic Association, agreed.

"The Bill creates a burden on the communities to make and pursue complaints against unruly establishments instead of providing a licensing system to regularly monitor these establishments," she said.

Henry also claimed that the companion legislation enacted to help enforcement of the bill is flawed.

One piece of companion legislation allowed for the revocation of the zoning permit for a certain business if residents complain.

However, Henry noted, this law might be challenged on legal grounds. The government



FILE PHOTO  
The new legislation will allow bars and restaurants such as CVP to host live entertainment.

can revoke zoning rules for an entire area by defining it as a public good, but to revoke rules for an individual business constitutes a "taking" by the government.

Henry noted that if the companion legislation allowing for the revocation of zoning permits were to be struck down, residents would be unable to legally prohibit a certain establishment from having live entertainment.

However, Spector noted that zoning permits would be for "conditional use," which would prohibit establishments from violating local laws such as noise regulations.

Overall, Cole said, "It's far better today than it was a month ago, and while it's not perfect, it gives citizens power that they never had before."

Erickson has raised concerns that residents will be unable to effectively move against businesses, given the difficulty of navigating the bureaucratic system.

"Currently in hearings before the BMZA (Baltimore Municipal Zoning Appeals), our community volunteers were forced to spend hours waiting to oppose zoning applications for changes in our neighborhoods that are pushed forward by the applicants with little advance notice to the community," Erickson said.

"We are very concerned about the possibility that Live Entertainment applications will be added to that hearing list." However, Cole noted that this is more a problem with efficiency in the system, rather than with the bill itself.

"You don't need a law to fix that," he said. "That's a staffing issue."

Stephanie Rawlings-Blake, city council president, said that she thought that the Charles Village neighborhood was strong enough to allow for live entertainment without distress to its citizens, however.

"I believe we have created strong neighborhood safe-

guards to complement this targeted expansion of live entertainment," Rawlings-Blake said.

However, Hopkins students generally felt that the new bill wouldn't effect them.

Junior Henry Kaldre, the lead guitarist of the band Rest Among Ruins who often plays at local venues such as Ram's Head and Sonar, said that even if bars and restaurants did start offering live entertainment, his band probably wouldn't play those locations.

"Charles Village Pub doesn't even really have a stage," Kaldre said.

In addition, fraternities such as Phi Kappa Psi often host live entertainment acts at their parties, despite the fact that they do not have a zoning license to do so.

However, a fraternity spokesman said that he did not think that the bill would effect them, and that he believed that live entertainment acts that they do host are not illegal.

"We only host a couple live entertainment events, and when we do, it's usually just a band that some of the brothers are in. I don't think these bills would affect us because it's not like we hired a band," sophomore fraternity brother Ernest Wright said.

Fraternity president John Charney said that the organization is not planning on applying for a zoning license, nor do they have plans to stop hosting acts.

"More bands, more babes," Charney said.

"We didn't have a license before there was this bill, we won't have one now."

Ultimately, the effects of this bill have yet to be revealed.

"Government policy can be unpredictable, and it is difficult to make legislation that targets only the troublemakers. The good ones are often scared of regulation designed to catch the bad ones," Henry said.

"It's hard for the government to design a net that just catches bad guys."

**Government policy  
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—COUNCILMAN BILL HENRY

## Aramark and Dining react to pricing study

By LAURA MUTH  
News & Features Editor

The Student Government Association (SGA) is working on a follow-up study to further investigate price variations between Charles Street Market (Char Mar) and other grocery stores.

According to sophomore senator Mark Dirzulaitis, most prices seem to be in line, but a number of items are considerably more expensive at Char Mar than at chain grocery stores and the local shops Eddie's and University Market (Uni Mini).

Karen Cutler, director of communications for Aramark, explained the process the company used to price its products.

"We have a competitive strategy... We analyze the prices at other local establishments and try to match ours appropriately," she said.

She added that price changes were not out of the question, but would have to be addressed through David Furhman, the director of Dining Services for Hopkins and the local Aramark management team.

Reginald Stephens, the operations director for Aramark at Hopkins, could not be reached for comment by press time.

Furhman elaborated on the pricing process used by Aramark in an e-mail to *The News-Letter*.

"Aramark implements a monthly competitive pricing analysis that includes pricing from the three convenience competitors in the area," he wrote.

"Retail prices are... based on a number of factors with the most obvious being their wholesale cost of any item."

He said that there are 38 major products that are used for this pricing analysis, including eggs, Dannon yogurt, several kinds of cereal, milk and a Ben & Jerry's ice cream pint.

However, the Ben & Jerry's

pint is also one of the items on the SGA's list of products that was notably more expensive than at local and chain competitors. According to the study, at Char Mar it cost \$4.39, while Superfresh, the next most expensive competitor, had priced it at \$3.99.

Despite this, the study also showed that eggs at Char Mar were less expensive than at Superfresh and Safeway.

Furhman pointed out that various other factors come into account when setting prices.

"Other operational costs also affect pricing — such as the costs associated with the operating hours at the Charles Street Market," he wrote.

Like Cutler, he acknowledged the possibility of change but did not make any guarantees.

"JHU Dining and Aramark are always happy to meet with students," Furhman wrote.

"However, it would be unfair to expect that the meeting would instantly result in a lower retail price... For instance, if Aramark is unable to source a particular product at low enough wholesale cost to enable them to sell the product at a lower retail price, it would be unfair to expect them to take a loss on that product."

Furhman also addressed the fact that buying dining dollars at the beginning of the year means a student pays more for a dollar for a dining dollar. The exchange rate is about 1.4:1.

"The difference in the cost... is the University's facilities fee... to support the operational expenses of the campus dining programs including such items as utilities, cooking equipment, ongoing repairs and renovations," he wrote.

Depending on the meal plan, that fee can range from \$136 to \$416 per semester.

Since this is paid from the actual meal plan, additional dining dollars purchased after the

beginning of the semester does not carry the facilities fee.

Sophomore Claire Snodgrass acknowledged that the pricing was inconvenient sometimes, but also pointed out that Char Mar is at a disadvantage in some regards.

"I think it's hard for such a small supermarket to be competitive with a chain," she said. "I would like them to offer more competitive prices, though."

Senior Kevin Rhie said that since he's not on a meal plan, he just avoids shopping at Char Mar for the most part.

"I usually do my grocery shopping at Giant or even the farmer's market. There's a better selection and better prices."

Junior Aaron Jones felt that it was a problem but was pessimistic about change.

"I don't think the study will do much to change it," he said. "It's supply and demand. It's one of the only places you can use a meal plan."

Baylor University, another college that uses Aramark, has not experienced any issues with the company in terms of pricing, although Director of Dining Services Brett Perkowski also pointed out that Baylor's convenience store was quite small.

"We mostly just sell drinks and light snacks there, so it's very small," he said. "And when we sell national brands we make sure our pricing is in line with that."

Compared with pricing and meal plans at Towson University, Hopkins is more expensive, but also gives offers more dining dollars. For example, the 14 meal plan at Towson comes with \$50 of dining points and costs \$1,987 and is the most popular meal plan. The 14 meal plan at Hopkins comes with \$250 dining dollars and costs \$2,579 and is one of the two meal plans available to freshmen.

## Phi Delta Theta initiated into national chapter

After a year of colonizing, the newest fraternity is now recognized

By CONOR FOLEY  
Staff Writer

On Friday the members of Phi Delta Theta fraternity at Hopkins were officially initiated by their General Headquarters as full members of the fraternity. The following day, the Hopkins chapter was installed as the Maryland Delta of Phi Delta Theta.

The Hopkins Chapter of Phi Delta Theta began colonizing in the fall of 2008 and was approved by the Inter-Fraternity Council on Feb. 13. The fraternity was installed with 45 founding fathers.

According to Rob Turning, Greek Life coordinator at Hopkins who is also a Phi Delta Theta alumnus, it generally takes one to two years for colonies to be chartered.

In order to be approved by the General Headquarters, the fraternity's national organization, the chapter had to meet a number of requirements. According to the Phi Delta Theta Web site, a fraternity must have at least 35 members when it is installed, and is expected to grow to the average size of other Greek organizations in its University.

In addition, the chapter must establish an alumni advisory committee, show community service involvement and educate itself about the fraternity's history and values.

To be formally installed, the chapter must also file a petition with the general headquarters. According to Justin Shen, the president of the Hopkins Chapter of Phi Delta Theta, the chapter prepared a petition of over 150 pages, which included the chapter's mission statement, organizational structure and a self-prepared history of Phi Delta Theta.

"There were definitely times when it was a lot of work, but I'm very happy with the results. I wouldn't change anything I've done," Shen said.

The Hopkins chapter of Phi Delta Theta was noted by the national organization for having best practices in its colonization program in phikeia education (pledging), recruitment and scholarship.

"[General Headquarters] wants these programs as a standard for other Phi Delta Theta colonies. These programs do not

rely on any big events but rather on techniques," Andrew Sender, vice president of the Hopkins chapter, wrote in an e-mail to *The News-Letter*.

"For instance our recruitment policy is to recruit all year long. Phikeia education is focused solely on the learnings of Phi Delta Theta's values and cardinal principals by meeting every week. And our scholarship program focuses on the relaxation of studying by having a scholar mentor and recognizing those in need of academic help."

Turning noted that Phi Delta Theta presented the opportunity to expand participation in Greek life at Hopkins.

"So far, I'd say they have recruited guys that typically wouldn't have joined a fraternity. They've had a lot of success with recruitment already, bringing in 45 people. Hopefully they raise the bar for all groups," Turning said.

Shen felt that Phi Delta's ini-

tiation process was part of its appeal to students.

"Obviously, we are one of the few [fraternities] that genuinely don't haze. A lot of people say 'How can you have brotherhood without hazing?' We say real brothers wouldn't haze each other. You don't go home for Thanksgiving and make your brother chug a beer," Shen said.

"We still have pledging, but its more centered around team building and just getting to know each other."

Sender wrote that personally, he felt the fraternity had positively impacted his life at Hopkins.

"Joining Phi Delta Theta as a founding father was one of the best decisions I made for my personal life. Because of our year round recruitment policy, I'm constantly meeting a new friend. I feel much more involved on campus this year than previous years. And I always enjoy hanging out with my brothers," Sender said.



COURTESY OF DAVID MOORSHEAD  
JHU's Phi Delta Theta fraternity officially became the Delta chapter of Maryland this past Friday.

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# Things I've Learned with Melanie Shell-Weiss

History professor discusses her work and experience with residents of East Baltimore

By PETER SICHER  
News & Features Editor

In light of the ongoing urban revitalization project in Middle East Baltimore by East Baltimore Development Inc. (EBDI), in which Hopkins is heavily involved, and recent news from the community, *The News-Letter* sat down once again to talk with Professor Melanie Shell-Weiss. Shell-Weiss is a professor of history at Hopkins and teaches a course called "The Power of Place: Race and Community in East Baltimore."

Students in her course take part in the East Baltimore Oral History Project.

*News-Letter (N-L):* Tell me about the oral history project.

Shell-Weiss (M.S.): We officially launched in fall of 2008. We're now going into a little over the second year of the project.

Both Ben and I really like the idea of — and Nia has been a real advocate for this as well — putting students at the center of these kinds of history documentation efforts as something that provides an exciting opportunity for students but also something that really provides a framework to bridge across generations . . . it's not just the trauma that happens to adults who are being forcibly relocated, it's what this means for their kids and their grandkids.

What does it mean not to be able to see or know where you grew up, being robbed of any sense of place or roots? It has serious psychological effects for people.

The opportunity to involve young people at Hopkins, and undergraduate students in particular, in this documentation effort seemed really exciting.

It seemed an opportunity to not only show young people in the neighborhood what was possible, but also to reach young people in our university community and teach them about Baltimore.

*N-L:* How has EBDI affected Hopkins' relationship with the community?

M.S.: I think the response to EBDI has been decidedly mixed from the community. There are a lot of folks who are very quick to point out the wonderful, wonderful things EBDI is doing.

Members of the Hopkins community that are involved with EBDI are very proud of that and should be.

EBDI is doing a lot of good things. What this project really tries to do . . . is to really evaluate the full scope of what's going on and the full impact for the men and women who are living through these changes directly, the residents of the neighborhoods who are most affected.

It really gets back to this issue of how these programs are carried out and the ongoing request on the part of community members for full transparency and the opportunity to be considered as full and equal members in the conversation about what is going to happen to their homes and residences.

There's really no history of that ever taking place when it comes to urban renewal processes and that strikes me as being fundamentally unjust.

I'd like to think, if you look at all the different ways Hopkins is involved both with EBDI and with the various efforts taking place in the community, that many of the efforts taking place now are very much geared towards fostering this equal dia-

logue and trying to make this urban revitalization initiative a humane initiative.

It doesn't always work out that way and that is really troubling.

I certainly do not think Hopkins' relation with EBDI is hurting how Hopkins is perceived in the community anymore than that relationship already was hurt.

There is a deep history of inequality there. There is a very deep history of what many members of these communities see as outright exploitation that predates EBDI.

EBDI really came into the mid-

the challenges associated with it, the real human challenges, the downside of these kinds of projects as well the promise.

*N-L:* What is your relationship with East Baltimore residents like?

M.S.: From the first days I was here I found the city of Baltimore to be a very welcoming place.

I will always be an outsider in these neighborhoods . . . I don't live there and my family is not from there. I'm not from Baltimore, I'm originally from Detroit. I work at Hopkins. I'm a white woman.



Shell-Weiss is taking part in a project to gather oral histories from E. Baltimore residents.

dle of that. I think the challenge now is how not to commit those sins of the past.

*N-L:* How will EBDI help or hurt Baltimore?

M.S.: I think what EBDI proposes to do sounds really good. It's a marvelously optimistic way of thinking about how to breathe new life into urban neighborhoods.

A lot of the things they proposed to do, [such as] the vision for the community school, the vision that EBDI and members of the Urban Health Institute have for thinking about ways to do community health that integrates education, [and] other social and political needs in the community [are very good].

There's a lot of really good stuff happening there [in terms of] sustainability . . . I think the challenge comes in practice . . . When you're talking about taking over individuals' and families' homes through eminent domain and forcibly relocating them, this is really, really problematic . . .

As EBDI is quick to point out — and this has certainly become clear in the oral histories student for this class have done — there are a lot of people who have been relocated, not initially by choice, out of these neighborhoods, who ultimately feel very positively about the outcome . . . They wanted to get out of the neighborhood for a while.

They had no way to do this. They appreciate this assistance. They felt EBDI and the various partners had been fair to them and were very satisfied.

There are other families that had a very different experience, however.

I hope this project is a way of highlighting all the many facets of that story and setting up a dialogue — certainly here in Baltimore but also a national and international conversation — about urban revitalization and urban renewal and

In all these respects I've am outsider and always will be. I've never been made to feel like an outsider by any of our community partners or residents with whom I've worked and I've been overwhelmed by the warmth, the generosity, the kindness and the patience of the people who we work with.

When I think about my role in the community I think of myself much more as a facilitator and a learner . . . I hope to open up opportunities for conversation between students . . . and members of the community.

*N-L:* How do you feel about the recent closure of the Save Middle East Action Committee (SMEAC)?

M.S.: My involvement with SMEAC only dates back a little over a year ago with the launching of this project . . . I have been really, really impressed with SMEAC from the get go.

I think it's one of the most exciting examples of a grass roots organization for change anywhere.

I know from talking to folks from cities across the country in a lot of different contexts that SMEAC also cast a very big shadow. Folks in other cities . . . are aware of what SMEAC was doing, were really inspired by it.

The members of SMEAC and the leaders of SMEAC have been very generous to me and to my students — leading walking tours, talking tirelessly with students, answering their questions and so forth.

I've been so incredibly grateful for that. I think . . . what SMEAC managed to do for residents . . . has been really inspiring. It's very much a David and Goliath story.

You have a group of people who by just about any conventional measure don't have much power, and yet they've managed to do very much and they've also managed to serve as a public conscience for a lot of the decision makers and the big institutions that have been involved with the urban revitalization efforts, including our university, and that's really tremendous.

For all those reasons I was really surprised, and I was saddened, to know that SMEAC was disbanding . . . Certainly the folks who are residents of the community and members of SMEAC have a much better idea of what is going on than I do, and I defer

to their good judgment.

From an outsider looking in, though, I have to say I do have serious questions about this idea that there is no longer a need for a public conscience, that there's no longer a need for an organization that is going to give voice to the way that these endeavors are affecting local residents.

As an outsider looking in it does not appear that that project has reached its conclusion and things are so secure that there's no longer a need for that kind of organization.

For that reason I hope that even though SMEAC is disbanding, there might be another organization that will move in and take up that charge.

*N-L:* Former SMEAC president Donald Gresham has talked about starting a new organization. What is your opinion of that?

M.S.: I have to say that over the time I've been working with SMEAC, Donald Gresham has been front and center in all of that.

It really has been Mr. Gresham who made it possible for us to work so closely with SMEAC. He has devoted so much in terms of learning and teaching and fostering and framing dialogue with the Hopkins community and especially with those who've been working with me on this project.

I certainly hope Donald will continue to be a public voice for change, that he'll continue to be a public voice within Middle East and in the context of the EBDI urban revitalization process.

Donald strikes me as a natural to continue to be a community leader and to lead a new organization.

# Daniels cancels MSE speech due to surgery

By JOYNITA SUR  
Staff Writer

President Daniels cancelled his scheduled talk for the MSE Symposium due to his October surgery to remove an abscess in his stomach.

"When we, along with the rest of the student body, were notified of President Daniel's surgery, we kept in close contact with his office to see if he would be able to speak at the MSE Symposium," Daniel Ingram, MSE Chair, said.

"However, about a week and a half ago, we were notified that President Daniels will not be able to speak."

"I am not surprised [to hear that President Daniel's canceled the talk]. He is recuperating from a very serious surgery and his doctors do not want him to stray from his recovery," Dennis O'Shea, the University Spokesperson, said.

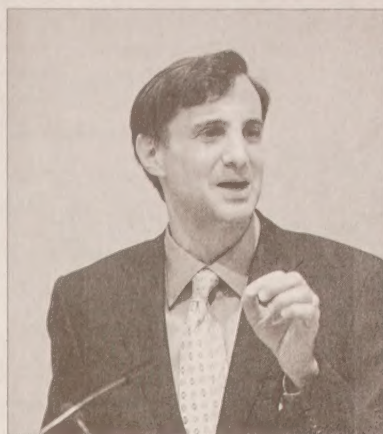
President Daniels has been convalescing and is expected to return to his office sometime in December.

"He's doing great," Jerome Schnydmann, Daniels' administrative assistant, said.

"He will be back in the office next Monday, but part-time. He will slowly ease back to the office over the next month."

President Daniels called off his MSE talk after his doctors gave him a time-frame of eight weeks for his post-surgical recuperation. Since he could not be certain of exactly when he would be back full-time, President Daniels felt it was best to cancel the talk.

"The reason we were interested in having President Daniels speak is because of our theme



FILE PHOTO Daniels underwent surgery to remove an abscess in Oct.

of transition between generations. We felt that with President Brody's talk last year, it would be appropriate if President Daniels had an opportunity to address the campus this year and field questions from the audience," Ingram said.

Yet, as the MSE Symposium is held only during the fall semester, President Daniels will not have an opportunity to speak at the Symposium until next year.

"I cannot speak as to what will happen next year, but I hope that he will be considered. There are also other student groups, such as the Foreign Affairs Symposium, that I can see him participate in to speak to the student body," Ingram said.

Students expressed sympathy for Daniels.

"I'm not really upset. I feel like it would have been really anticlimactic to end with him after we had Steele and Elizabeth Edwards. Anyway, health comes first," sophomore Claire Snodgrass said.

"I hope he gets better. He should take all the time he needs," senior Kevin Rhie said.

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## CORRECTIONS

In the Nov. 19 issue on page A2 in the article, "Faces Around Campus: Tyler Smith, Political Activist and Campaigner," senator Patty Murray was incorrectly labeled as a member of the House of Representatives.

*The News-Letter* regrets these errors.



## Studying abroad in Cuba still feasible

**CUBA, FROM A1**  
of academic exchange with Cuba earlier in the decade.

"I started to dive a bit further, and met Dr. Gonzalez [Director of the Spanish and Latin American Subdivision of the Department of Romance Languages] who used to take students to Cuba over spring break," Ellis said.

After having studied US legislation on Cuba, he found a loophole through the Office of Foreign Assets (OFAC) under the Department of the Treasury — which administers and upholds economic sanctions in accordance with US foreign policy and national security interests.

It was from the OFAC that Ellis had to obtain permission to travel to Cuba.

In order to study in Cuba he had to (among other requirements) be a matriculating student at a university that has a program in Cuba (or an academic license) and the duration of the study had to be longer than 10 weeks.

In addition, he had to pursue a formal course of study in Cuba and the University had to approve all of the proposed classes and accept them for credit.

While he was communicating with OFAC, he was also talking to members of the University administration to obtain approval for his course of study.

It was once he obtained approval from both the University and OFAC that he enrolled in the University of Havana independently.

Ellis was able to stay for three months by using a loophole having to do with immigration policy in Cuba. Though he travelled to Cuba with a tourist visa, Cuban law requires that a foreign student change this visa to a student visa upon arrival.

This student visa lasts for the duration of the intended program of study and expires on the last day of the program.

After having completed his ten-week summer term he flew out of Cuba to the nearby Bahamas before flying back in, thus renewing his tourist visa.

It was during this extended period of stay that he was able to truly see the legacy of the Cuban revolution in action.

He saw how, "the far less-than-ideal revolution served to give Cubans a rich sense of cul-

ture," rendering it one of "the most culturally rich, diverse and profound nations in the region."

"The Embargo has no grounding at this point," Ellis said as he expressed disdain at the fact that after nearly 50 years it continues to, "cause the Cubans suffering."

He feels strongly that both the US and the Cuban governments need to reach a diplomatic understanding by opening up real discussion.

Peter Agre, Nobel Laureate in chemistry and leader of the Hopkins Malaria Research Institute, expressed the same sentiments.

Taking into account the existence of "higher priorities on the Obama agenda" than the easing of relations with Cuba, he hopes nevertheless that relations with Cuba will be normalized.

Agre, president of the Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) led a delegation of scientists to Cuba in mid-November with "the advancement of science in mind."

Representing the AAAS and with a non-political agenda in mind, Agre and his delegation met with the Deputy Foreign Minister, the President of the Cuban National Academy for the Sciences and the Director of the Latin-American Medical School

among other scientific notables.

His delegation also visited the biotechnology institute, the malarial institute and the vaccine institutes of Cuba.

As scientists, they were all required by Cuban law to travel as private citizens but were not permitted to travel as tourists.

"This trip was entirely formal, and involved meeting with top scientists and personnel to foster goodwill with the hope of increasing scientific cooperation," Agre said.

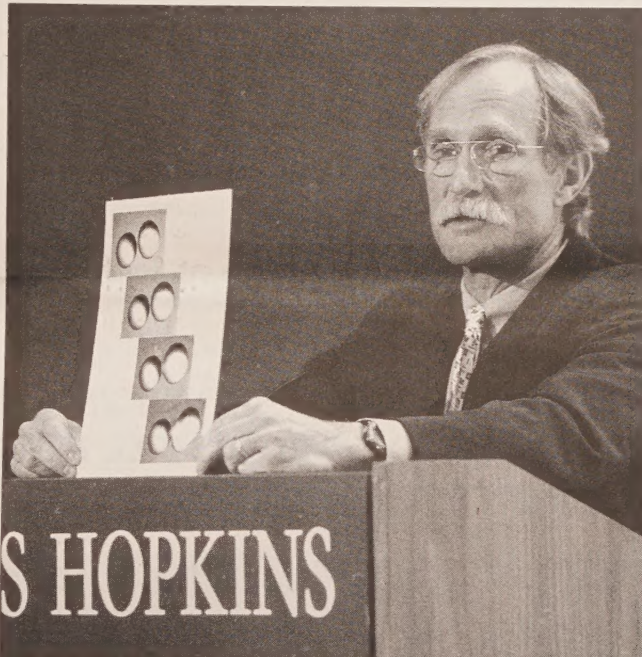
"Cubans have done things that Americans would like to know more about. Public health has clearly become a priority in Cuba where the infant mortality rate is less than those of some American cities."

He noted Cuba's success in eradicating malaria — an area of his research — and pointed to the talent of the Cubans of "doing more with less," especially considering the fact that all Cuban scientists are government employees.

Agre was shocked by what he saw however, comparing Cuba to post-World War II Italy and referring to the embargo as "not an act of war but an act of starvation."

"Cuba will be an area of great interest in the months and years to come — specifically pertaining to the advancement of sciences and the public health breakthroughs we have witnessed in this country," Agre said.

"Cuba continues to be a beacon for the practice of science and specifically for the advancement of medicine."



COURTESY OF HOPKINSMEDICINE.ORG

Peter Agre recently travelled to Cuba to foster scientific dialogue and discussion.

## Aramark workers worry over jobs

Former employee fights for recognition of wrongful termination

**ARAMARK, FROM A1**

food service, manufacturing, textile, laundry and airport services. However, he said he never heard back from them and decided to hire his own lawyer. His goal is to overturn what he considers his wrongful termination and receive back pay for the time since he lost his job.

According to Tina Turner, a current Aramark employee, part of the reason Harris has not received a response from the Union is that they are in the midst of a transition from a bigger regional union back to the local Unite HERE! branch.

Unite HERE! local seven president Gladys Burrell confirmed that the union was in the midst of a transition period. However, she also stated that the three employees to have been fired this semester were "terminated because of tardiness," rather than as a result of missing days due to sickness.

Turner disagreed.

"A lot of employees were recently terminated because of illness," she said. "They tell you you're still responsible for your work . . . even if [the employee] did have a doctor's note."

She said even when news about the H1N1 flu virus was gaining national attention, workers were told they still had to come to work.

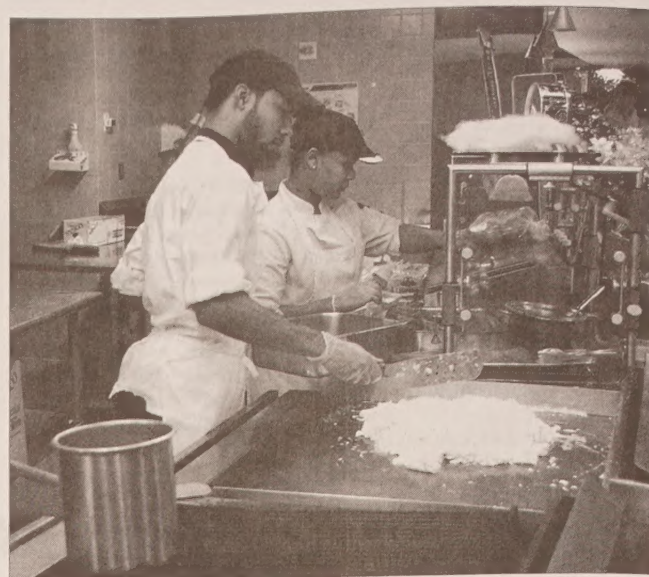
"Sometimes they couldn't do their job, but if they didn't come in they'd get suspended or worse comes to worse terminated," she said.

Another Aramark employee who preferred not to be named agreed with Turner's assessment.

"Even on the news they say, if you're sick stay home," the employee said. "But here they seem to think it doesn't matter what the situation is, work should come first."

This employee also stated that they had not heard anything from the union for several weeks.

Burrell stated that the union's contract with Aramark expires



WILL SHEPHERDSON/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Some Aramark employees say their coworkers have been fired after taking sick days.

Jan. 31, meaning it is up for renegotiation. However, she said that they have not yet held a meeting to discuss potential changes.

"We haven't written down proposals yet," she said.

That meeting will be scheduled for sometime in the next week or two. She acknowledged that the shift to the local branch of the Unite HERE! union has been slow because of all the legal paperwork.

Turner also expressed concern with Aramark's healthcare policy. Only full-time employees get the company's health benefits, which include dental, eye and primary health care. To be considered full-time, an employee has to work at least 30 hours a week.

According to the anonymous employee, schedules and shifts are frequently written so that they are 25 hours a week.

Turner added that Aramark recently hired a number of new employees, but most of them were part-time.

Harris stated that although he did want to prove his employ-

ment had been wrongfully terminated, he was not sure he would ever want to return to work with Aramark.

"I want to get my wrongful termination overturned and get my back pay, then decide if I go back," he said.

Students seemed to be concerned with the possibility of sick employees coming to work, for multiple reasons.

"They're in the food service, and that is a definite problem for reducing swine flu infections," sophomore Claire Snodgrass said. "I mean, they tell us not to come in to the dining places when we're sick."

Junior Aaron Jones agreed, and added that, "I don't think anyone should lose their job because they're sick."

Senior Kevin Rhie called it a "double standard," referring to the fact that sick students are not supposed to go in public places.

"I don't really know what Aramark's policies are, but I would say it's a bad situation because they'll get everyone sick."

### SECURITY ALERTS

#### Burglary

3101 N Calvert St.

Between 3:15 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. on Nov. 19:

A laptop and backpack were stolen from the third-floor bedroom of a Hopkins senior. Two laptops and a PlayStation 3 were taken from a roommate's bedroom located on the same floor. Baltimore City Police responded and found the robber entered through an unlocked window. Investigations are continuing.

#### Theft

3003 N. Charles St.

At 3:45 p.m. on Nov. 19:

An unknown person used a staff member's missing credit card to make a large purchase. The staff member was notified, and the card was recovered from the kitchen. Investigations are ongoing.

#### Theft

3rd Floor, Jenkins Hall

Between 4:30 and 5:45 p.m. on Nov. 20:

A backpack belonging to a graduate student was stolen from a room while the student was outside. The backpack contained an iPhone, wallet and money. Campus police continue to investigate the theft.

#### Destruction of Property

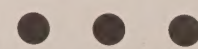
3100 Wyman Park Dr.

At 2:22 a.m. on Nov. 20:

A Campus Officer found that the turnstile entrance to the reserve lot had been snapped off.



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# The Year in Review

2



## Economic

Slide

This year saw economic turmoil for most of the world, and Hopkins was no exception. As the stock market tanked, endowment dropped and administrators had to get creative. Hiring freezes, pay cuts and the lowest tuition increase in many years helped ease the pain, and it looks like we can start spending money again (which Tucker Max must appreciate). Is Hopkins starting to come out from under the shadow of the recession — or is the worst still yet to come? And can we have our Crew Team back?



## Leaving Hopkins

Provost Kristina Johnson left to work for Obama. Dean Adam Falk is headed off to Williams College. Dean David Bell is off to Princeton. The Den is gone. So was Fall Break. Is it something we said?

## Swine Flu Hits Homewood

Mix one part highly contagious strain of influenza with students who would not miss their orgo lecture if their hair was on fire, and what do you get? A lovely outbreak of H1N1 that no onslaught of cute pig-slang signs or gallons of hand sanitizer could quell. At least we can now get our shots.



## Samurai Sword Killing

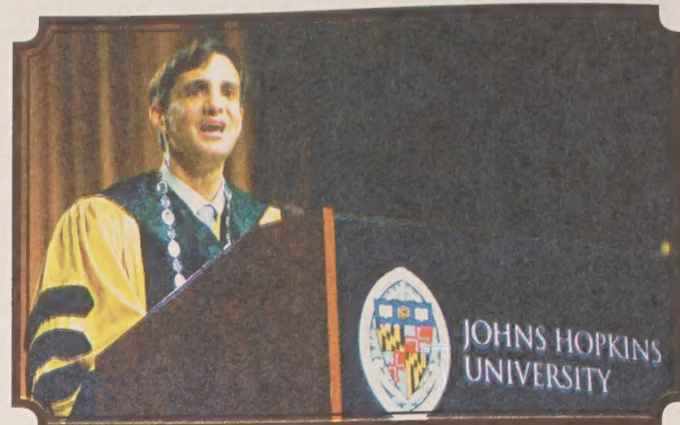
The media swarmed, the Internet was filled with praise and the freshman class president used the killing as advertising to win an election. It didn't sound real. A Hopkins student kills an intruder ... with a samurai sword? But it was all too horrifyingly true.



## Greeks Get Busted

Fraternities came under fire for violating alcohol policies during rush and orientation.

On the sorority side of things, we bid farewell to Kappa Alpha Theta after sisters were caught breaking into Barnes and Nobel ... and then had a party to celebrate their probation against having parties. Way to go out with a bang, ladies. After all, you only live once ... or so we've heard.



## Welcome, President Daniels

President Ronald Daniels was officially inaugurated in the fall, but was derailed by surgery on his pancreas soon after. We look forward to getting to know our new, baby-faced president, but right now his most lasting impression on students came from his decision to not cancel classes during a snow storm — ensuring Hopkins will never forget that he is Canadian.

9

## The Big Victories

Okay, sure, we did not have any big championship seasons in lacrosse. But our Division III teams really showed that Hopkins athletics should be taken seriously.

Our academic reputation is not that shabby either. Carol Greider brought home the Nobel Prize, the jewel in our crowning achievements in the sciences.

And nothing should make Hopkins more proud than the success of senior Eric Levitz, whose playwriting has been getting recognition from the Merrick Barn and beyond.



# Holiday and Intersession

## Campus Dining Schedule

All Dining Facilities open regular hours through and including Thursday, December 17

### Friday, December 18

**Fresh Food Café**- last full service meal is lunch, ending at 2PM (A light buffet dinner will be offered from 5-7pm)

**Levering Food Court/ Pura Vida**- regular hours

**Charles Street Market**- closing at 6PM

**Einstein Bros. Bagels**- closing at 3:30PM

**Nolan's**-*closed*

### Saturday, December 19

**Fresh Food Café** - A light buffet breakfast will be offered from 7-10AM

*All other facilities closed*

### Monday December 21- Wednesday, December 23

**Levering Food Court**- Levering Leaves/Peppercorn Grille 11AM-2PM

**Pura Vida**-7:30AM-3:00PM

**Fresh Food Café**-closed

**Nolan's**-closed

**Charles Street Market/ Einstein Bros.**-closed

### Thursday, December 24-Sunday, December 27

*All facilities closed*

### Monday, December 28- Wednesday, December 30

**Levering Food Court**- Levering Leaves/Peppercorn Grille 11AM-2PM

**Pura Vida**-7:30AM-3:00PM

**Fresh Food Café**-*closed*

**Nolan's**-*closed*

**Charles Street Market/ Einstein Bros.**-*closed*

### Sunday, January 3

**Charles Street Market**- Open Noon until Midnight

### Monday, January 4-Sunday, January 24

**Fresh Food Café**- regular schedule with the following exceptions:

Late Night dining suspended until Sunday, January 23

January 18, MLK Day, operating on Sunday schedule

**Nolan's**- regular schedule

**Charles Street Market**- open 7:30AM-Midnight, 7 days per week

**Einstein Bros**- regular hours

**Levering Food Court**- Levering Leaves/Peppercorn Grille open regular hours (pizza and subs closed)

**Pura Vida**- 7:30AM-4PM, Monday through Friday

### Monday, January 25

All facilities resume regular operating hours

**Note: Second semester meal plans begin  
Monday, January 11**



## NEWS &amp; FEATURES

## Renovation on schedule, site reveals improvements

GILMAN, FROM A1

and we are going to reuse that in the new atrium's floor," Kajic said, referring to the five-story-high book stacks that flanked both the Hut and the Donovan Room.

The stacks were literally stacked — providing structural support to the floor above. The stacks have been replaced floor by floor by driving in steel supports from the top, building new floors one at a time. Replacing the stacks has added room for faculty and administrative offices, classrooms, seminar rooms, restrooms and a few mechanical rooms.

"One of the big things we did not have in Gilman was a variety of classroom spaces to accommodate different needs," Kajic said. Feedback from student groups and the registrar indicated the need for a variety of classroom sizes.

Energy conservation is not the only area of the construction utilizing new technology. The new and restored classrooms have gone high-tech. "The lecture hall and the Donovan room upstairs have Hodson-style technology. All the other classrooms or seminar rooms have a baseline, where there's a projector, DVD player, VHS player and overhead camera."

Before the renovation, Gilman was not easily navigable. Corridors dead-ended and staircases often only spanned a floor or two. New oval staircases will mimic the style of the original circular staircases unfit for emergency egress use.

Though shaped more like the letter "O", Gilman's pathways better resembled the letter "U". "You couldn't make the whole loop except on the ground floor. To get across you had to walk the whole way around the building," Kajic said.

In order to fix this, the construction crews moved some rooms around. "We pushed the old Donovan room to the west, raised this floor up so it's at the same level. Now we have a full circulation," Kajic said.

Access to the terrace was provided by converting a room for



FILE PHOTO  
The renovations of Gilman Hall will, among other things, make it more energy efficient.

English department grad students into a corridor.

The Donovan Room, previously tiered, was leveled to provide American Disabilities Act (ADA) access. It is also undergoing a makeover.

"It had dated blue curtains that were always drawn because it was the largest room in Gilman for Film and Media to shoot films and have the capacity for students that they needed. So, now that we have a lecture hall, they can do their films there, and this becomes a nice classroom with a nice view of the dell off behind us. It's a little better flavor to the building," Kajic said.

The Donovan Room is an example of how restorative techniques have been used to preserve Gilman.

"Wherever we have historical rooms, we are putting the molding as it was, plaster cast, and the ceilings get plaster as it was back then. And our windows will get refurbished. All the other windows on the perimeter of the building are new thermal pane windows. They are wood windows as well because we wanted to maintain the historical character of the building," Kajic said.

Storm windows will be added to the perimeter of the building to protect the historical windows and provide better insulation.

Underneath the atrium area in the center of the building, above the lecture hall, there is a new archaeological museum. "It will be lined with cases," Kajic said.

Sunlight will illuminate the museum area by reaching around the floor of the atrium level, down into light wells that bound the museum.

The center of the building previously served no point other than providing light to interior offices. The roof of the bookstore, now the floor of the museum, was useless. "If you walked down on it, it was shaky," Kajic said.

Now, above the museum, a glass enclosed atrium has been erected.

An enclosed bridge will be used to traverse this central area and allow access to the Hut from the East side of the building.

"The old way of getting to the Hutzler Reading Room was to come in through the Keyser Quad doors. You'd hit the entry vestibule then you'd come through memorial hall," Kajic said, gesturing to a hole on the East section of the building, across the atrium floor.

"A lot of people didn't think of it as a bridge, because they just walked through and thought it was a corridor. We took that away and built the structure up so you have [from the bottom up] the basement,

the lecture hall, the museum and the atrium."

Some windows facing the old courtyard were bricked in during the 1960s. "We're reopening these windows back up for a better living community as part of the LEED incentive. We want to shed a lot of light into this space that will cast not only into the offices, but into the interior corridors as well."

The Hut is also being restored. All of the windows in the Hut were restored and conserved at a local firm. "They were recently put back in a week or two ago," Kajic said.

The ceiling of the Hut was completely ripped down and installed with utilities and fire protection, but was redone in the historical style. "We went back with plaster cast molding and plaster ceilings and walls," Kajic said.

"We wanted to make some multipurpose spaces," Kajic said. A minimalist glass wall will separate the south wing of the Hut from the main area of the room. The soundproof wall will allow group study to take place without disturbing the main quiet area.

## Dixon convicted of one embezzlement charge

DIXON, FROM A1

the jury's decision was announced, Arnold Weiner, Dixon's lawyer, made no indication of whether or not the defense was going to file an appeal. "We will be studying the effects of this decision over the next couple of days," Weiner said. "We are certain to file post-trial motions."

At this time, the mayor's office is not willing to comment on the court's decision.

Under state law, Dixon will be suspended from her mayoral duties upon sentencing. If Dixon loses all of her appeals, if she files any, she will be permanently removed from office. Upon Dixon's removal from office, current city council president Stephanie Rawlings-Blake would become active mayor.

In the spring, Dixon will be tried for perjury. The charge stems from a series of expensive gifts she received from Ronald Lipscomb, developer and former boyfriend of Dixon, while she was still city council president. According to the prosecution, she failed to report the gifts on finan-

cial disclosure forms filed with the Baltimore City Ethics Board. Among the gifts was \$4000 she allegedly used to pay her American Express bill. The trial is scheduled to begin March 1.

The Dixon trial was the result of a four-year investigation into City Hall spending. On June 17, 2008, Maryland state prosecutors searched Dixon's home and seized several documents. On Jan. 9, Dixon was indicted for secretly accepting gifts totaling \$20,000 from Lipscomb.

Though the January perjury charges against Dixon were later dropped, on Jul. 29, Dixon was indicted on multiple counts of theft and perjury connected to the misuse of gift cards donated to the city for needy families.

Despite the investigation and guilty verdict, the mayor remains popular in Baltimore. During her term in office, the city's homicide rate has dropped to a 20-year low. She has strengthened the city's recycling program and has sued Wells Fargo for singling out black home buyers for risky sub-prime mortgages.

However, some Baltimore natives at Hopkins are not surprised by the verdict.

"I am ecstatic," Aaron Jones, a junior, said. "I am glad they are putting that witch in jail."

"I was not really surprised," Greg Rossman, a junior, said. "Frankly, I think she should have been found guilty on more charges, but I am thankful that she was found guilty on at least one charge."

Many also expressed hope that Baltimore politics will change once Dixon leaves office.

"I believe that Stephanie Rawlings will replace her," Jones said. "I don't know what difference she will make. Baltimore is pretty much governed by a one party system. She will probably continue the same policies as Dixon, but I am hopeful that she will change the way things are done in this city."

## Driver, Meighan, indicted after allegedly killing student

INDICTMENT, FROM A1

going to look at the entire call from soup to nuts."

Guglielmi said that this investigation could take at least a couple weeks as a result of the extensive interviewing and reviewing that will have to be conducted.

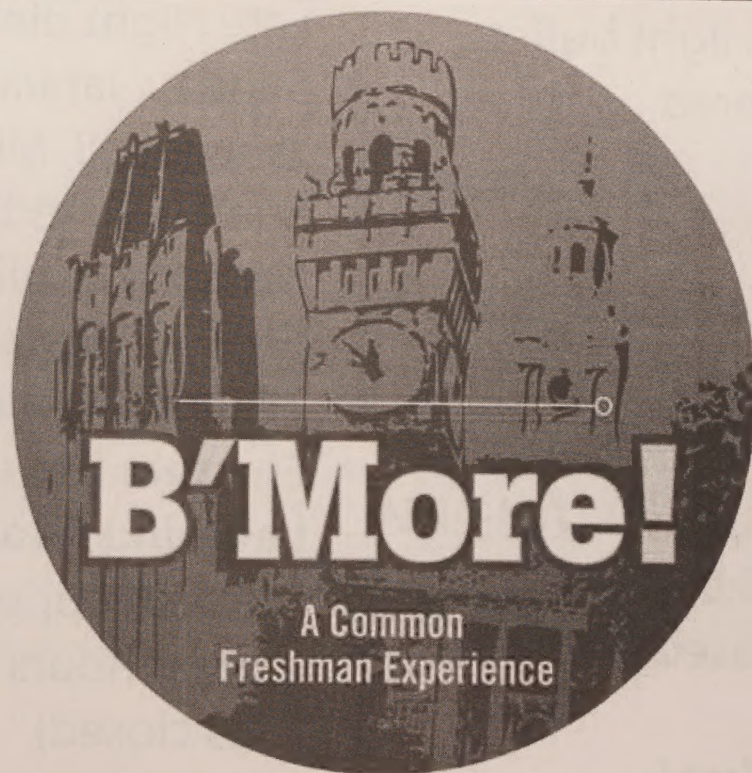
Overall, however, University spokesman Dennis O'Shea said that Hopkins is grateful for the work of the police on this issue.

"We are very thankful for the hard work and diligence of the police department and the State's Attorney Office in bringing the case to this point," O'Shea said.

"I completely trust our justice system to do what is right in this case," junior Doug Tonkinson, a close friend of Frankl's, said.

Members from Frankl's sorority, Alpha Phi, said that they are still distraught over her death, but they declined to comment on the legal proceedings of Meighan's case.

"The chapter is still getting over it, it's been pretty hard on all of us, it's taking time . . . we all miss her a lot still, and the holiday season is also especially rough," Naomi Sell, a friend and sorority sister of Frankl's, said.



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NEWS & FEATURES



COURTESY OF WWW.BALTOGREENMAP.ORG  
Lake Montebello is a great local place for running — just hurry before it's too cold!

## Tired of studying? Take a lap or two, literally

With finals hanging heavy over campus, you are probably one of the many ready to GET OUT of this place. No offense, Hopkins.

Unfortunately, we are all doomed to stay here for at least another week, and we will most likely see more of the library than we'd like to. But I come bearing good news.

There is a way to escape Hopkins — and it is healthy, too. During reading period, I suggest you drop your books, pick up your sneakers and go for a run. I promise the 30 minutes will do you good!

Before we get started, I suppose I should give a little safety announcement. We have all been warned that Baltimore is the scariest place on earth, so I do not need to tell you to run during the day, on populated streets, with a friend if possible.

I cannot promise that nothing bad will happen, but I can say that I have run in Baltimore just about every day since my freshman year, and no one has ever attacked me.

I might have been knocking on wood while I wrote that sentence, but really, I think you'll be just fine running in this town if you have safe routes and use common sense.

There are good running routes around Homewood campus. A lot of runners like to run near water. Luckily there is water less than three miles from campus, in every direction.

You're probably familiar with the Inner Harbor. Though the Colletetown Shuttle makes it seem like this body of water is hundreds of miles away, it is actually only a three-mile run (downhill) from the library.

And if you get tired, you can pick up the Colletetown at the Harbor or the JHMI at Mount Vernon to take you back.

To the east is a little gem called Lake Montebello. If you run straight down 33rd St., you'll hit it after 1.6 miles. The lake's perimeter is about 1.5 miles and makes for a really pleasant, flat jog. Plus you'll get to see some Baltimoreans walking it out around the track.

Feel free to stop and do some pull-ups or leg exercises on the outdoor exercise equipment along the track.

If you're up for a little challenge, go uphill to the north for 1.3 miles on Charles St., turn right at Coldspring Lane for 0.3 more miles, and discover the Guilford reservoir. It's small and square and sits on top of a hill, so there's a nice view of the Loyola area.

Sometimes an old man with a cane walks around the pond, along with Loyola students. If you're still feeling energized at this point, go down Coldspring for another half mile and turn right at the Bolton St. Synagogue.

Go to the back of the parking lot and you will discover a great trail that will take you to a wide street called Wyndhurst. Here, you can turn right until you hit Charles St., and then head south again. The whole loop (pond lap included) is about five miles.

And lastly, to the west lies

Druid Hill Lake. Just follow Wyman Park Dr. (right behind the Decker Quad, to the west) away from campus and you'll reach a nice lake (similar to Montebello, but bigger) in 1.2 miles. Once you're there, you can run around Druid Hill Park, and check out the Maryland Zoo.

Aren't you getting excited already? A lot of students might not believe it, but there are some great trails and lakes around this city that add a touch of nature to Baltimore.

If you're still hesitant to abandon campus, though, there's always the two-mile campus loop. Starting at MSE, you can run up Charles, take a left on University Pkwy., left at San Martin Dr. and then left again at Art Museum Dr., leaving you back on Charles St.

These are only a few of the many running routes that await.

To learn more details about these routes or to create more routes, I would recommend a visit to [www.mapmyrun.com](http://www.mapmyrun.com). Also, there's a giant database of routes at [www.usatf.com](http://www.usatf.com) with trails all over the country.

Hopefully my list of jogging journeys has opened your eyes a bit to what Baltimore has to offer when it comes to exercising outdoors.

But don't take my word for it, go run for yourself! It's a great way to keep your body fit and give your brain a rest during finals.



**Mary Doman**  
*Work It Out*

I have not seen *Where the Wild Things Are*. I might, because I like watching movies, but I did not go crazy grappling for a ticket on opening weekend.

It doesn't interest me, on principle, when a filmmaker appropriates a children's book for the purpose of adults' starchy-eyed nostalgia. This is the same reason I have no interest in seeing *The Fantastic Mr. Fox*.

However, people are crazy about *Where the Wild Things Are*, and that's why, if you are a fan, you can choose from no less than eight graphic tees on [www.UrbanOutfitters.com](http://www.UrbanOutfitters.com).



**Amanda Jean Boyle**  
*The Brick Runway*

This is fine, but you won't see me lounging around in one. I find graphic tees sort of boring (there are, of course, exceptions). I'm much more interested in the *Where the Wild Things Are* collection done by Opening Ceremony.

Opening Ceremony is a boutique based in New York City, Los Angeles and Tokyo that specializes in young, hip designers. Think Alexander Wang, Charles Anastase and Proenza Schouler.

Opening Ceremony takes its name from the Olympic Games Opening Ceremony, and as it says on its Web site part of its mantra includes focusing on a new "unique commercial and cultural character of a visiting city."

The boutique also often features and sells collaborations, and early this fall, the *Where the Wild Things Are* X Opening Ceremony collaboration came to my attention.

It was love at first sight. Scrolling down the offerings, we begin with your standard graphic tees that have quotes like "Inside all of us is a Wild Thing." Fine enough if that's what you want, but the real good-

ies make you a Wild Thing on the outside.

Soft and awkwardly shaped (slouchy, boxy, bulky). Faux fur skirts, mini-dresses, vests and jackets were all inspired by the different Wild Things, and done in collaboration with the director of the film, Spike Jonze.

This made me raise an eyebrow. First off, what sort of credentials did he have to be designing? Secondly, now that Lindsay Lohan is designing, everyone seems to feel that they can! And finally, I wondered if he was just jealous of his ex-wife Sofia Coppola's incredibly luxe bag collaboration with Louis Vuitton.

Nonetheless, I'm particularly obsessed with their K.W. fitted dress, a short sleeved mini dress with light brown long-haired faux fur.

I could not think of many outfits that would be more fun to wear than this dress. Fun and a sense of humor are aspects not always included in everyday dress, but they should be. It makes those early morning classes a lot more enjoyable.

The pièce de résistance of the collection is undoubtedly the Max Suit, which seems to be sold out online.

It's dress-up



COURTESY OF WWW.OPENINGCEREMONY.COM  
These Wild-inspired designs would certainly turn a few heads (and tails) at Hopkins.

for adults, and as someone who spent several frustrating hours this October trying to find a T-Rex costume online that would fit someone over the age of five, that is a wonderful thing.

I have written about the role of inspiration in the world of fashion before, and I will write about it again in the future, I'm sure. It's one of the most interesting and important aspects of fashion.

A designer's inspiration can come from something as personal as memories of his or her grandmother's jewelry collection. It can also come from a common memory — something we all know, like astronauts' space suits. Sometimes, the motif behind a collec-

tion is not realized until it's all done: Miuccia Prada only lightbulbed into the connection between post-war Germany and her beautifully tough Fall 2009 collection the day before the runway show, but it unlocked the meaning of the entire collection for her.

This Opening Ceremony collection just shows how important different points of view are in fashion. Something that does not inspire me did inspire someone else, and the end result is fashion for which I am lusty!

Maybe when I see *Where the Wild Things Are*, I'll view it as a cinematic travesty. A bastardization of childhood.

But I will not hate the film because, if for nothing else, there is one really great thing that has come out of it: the furry and fun collection from Opening Ceremony.

Ready to unleash your fashion beast?  
E-mail: [brick.runway@jhnewsletter.com](mailto:brick.runway@jhnewsletter.com)  
for Amanda's advice.



## In the 21st century, talking about sex shouldn't be taboo: put it all out there

Let's talk about sex. No, I have not gone completely daft and forgotten that this is a sex column, hence we certainly should and will be talking about sex, but I mean outside of this page.

In person. Out in the world. Because, in all honesty, the fact that we even have this column confirms that we don't do enough talking.

While, certainly, people in general have become more comfortable about discussing matters of the flesh since, say, the 16th century, it is a little unbelievable that an act that is as natural to us as human beings as eating or breathing should remain so taboo, especially in American society.

Yes, sexuality permeates our modern culture.

It's shoved in our faces in advertisements, in movies, in music and in social situations. Its approach is hardly subtle; the St. Pauli Girl leaves little to the imagination and *American Pie* taught us more than we needed to know about all of the major sex acts.

We all know it's there. But we're still not comfortable talking about it, and this is why the subject is still so taboo.

Religion had a lot to do with the censorship of this topic in the past, as it did with many other subversive aspects throughout human history.

Sex was, and still is to many, a sacred act between a man and a woman who have committed to being only with each other.

But what is it now? Is it still only that, copulation between a man and woman in love? Or does it now include oral, masturbation, foreplay? Where is the line drawn between appropriate and salacious? When are we saying too much?

The Huffington Post recently published an article on this very subject: most of us really don't have a clear definition of what constitutes sex and thus we don't know how to approach it.

But why should those of us who are comfortable enough to do so be forced to keep silent and remain "appropriate?"

Additionally, although I am trying to keep the male-female inequality debate out of this, it's clear that it's at least a little more tolerable for guys to discuss their sexual conquests and adventures than for girls.

I've addressed this issue before, with regards to female masturbation, but this double standard affects every aspect of sex

and sexuality, down to making it socially acceptable for a guy to have a dirty mind. Girls, however, cannot.

The bottom line is, we are, each and every one of us, a sexual being, and we should not have to apologize for it.

I should not, and certainly do not, consider my position as a sex columnist to be vulgar or degrading, but it's incredible how many individuals believe I should do so.

Every one of us is a product of a sexual act, so, pardon me if I don't see how some people get off on judging others based on their opinions here.

This should not be taken as a condemnation of the prudes in this world or as me calling everyone too judgmental.

I just find it unfortunate that our society still finds sex so tasteless that one must be 17 in order to see a woman's breasts in a movie, when a movie filled with violence can be rated PG-13, or even PG, if it's cartoons that are doing the killing.

Where's the logic in this? Violence equals harm toward others. Sex, at least the consensual kind, equals one extremely



ANNE FABER/GRAPHICS EDITOR

happy couple. I can't help but see something wrong with this picture.

Whether we talk about it or not, we're going to keep having sex. But if we don't talk about it, we can't feel completely at ease with our decision to do so. It's not just a moral dilemma, it's a health one as well.

There's a reason abstinence-only sex education is ineffective: if you're not aware of the consequences of sex, you might find yourself facing some life-altering decisions and irreversible situations.

Not being properly educated about sex is being irresponsible to yourself, and the only way to become educated is to talk about it with others.

There is only good to be gained from becoming more vocal about our sexual needs.

We're not losing our innocence (did we ever have that to begin with?). We're becoming more honest with ourselves and smarter about our choices.

We all know that sex is one of the best things about being human. Let's stop being ashamed of it.



# THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

PUBLISHED SINCE 1896 BY THE STUDENTS OF THE JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY

## EDITORIALS

### Time To Part With Aramark

Aramark's tenuous relationship with its employees has been a topic of concern for this paper since Hopkins announced the partnership in July 2006. From dissipating union memberships to carefully structuring shift assignments with the goal of reducing the number of employees receiving benefits, Aramark has a record of mistreating its workers. Now it seems the problem has reached an extreme.

Amidst the most publicized and anticipated flu season in years (you couldn't get away from the swine flu hysteria if you tried), Aramark employees were told they had to come to work even if they could prove they were sick with a note from their doctors. Workers in FFC, Levering, Nolan's and Charles Street Market have shown up to work while sick, fearing retribution from the company for their absences. Workers have reportedly been unable to function in their jobs, but have nevertheless shown up out of this fear.

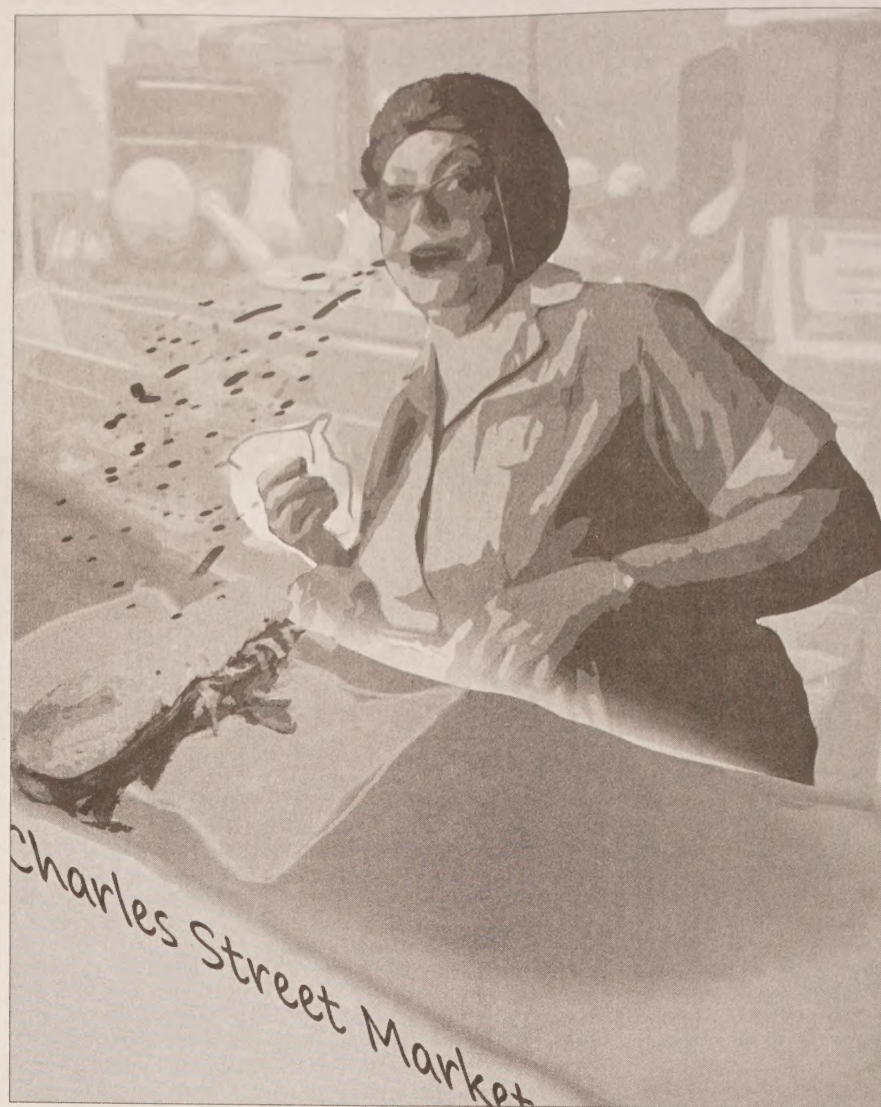
It's ironic that we have sick employees forced to work in dining halls plastered with hyped-up advertising about the dangers of swine flu. Students are all but quarantined if they exhibited the slightest signs of a cold. Aramark's forced hours undermine pretty much everything we are told about protecting ourselves and our community from the flu. Sick students are advised to

stay home from class and have friends pick up their meals, but people involved with the distribution and preparation of food are required to work while ill. If Hopkins is serious about protecting students from the possible transmission of disease, administrators should take a more proactive role in preventing sick workers from serving us food.

The *News-Letter* has to question Aramark's judgment and treatment of its employees as this new information comes to light about the apparent abuse of its workers.

This page acknowledges that food quality has improved dramatically since Sodexo was dropped as Hopkins' food service provider in 2006. If the cost of better food is mistreated workers, however, then it is not worth it. As its contract with Aramark is set to expire in January, Hopkins has the opportunity to demand improved treatment for dining hall workers before agreeing to renew. If the organization is unwilling to make changes, we implore Hopkins to seek a partnership with a different company while retaining current staff. There has to be a medium between horrible food and deplorable treatment. We hope that Hopkins will scrutinize the management of the dining company on campus more closely and consider a change if one is warranted.

Anne Faber



## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### LETTERS POLICY

The Johns Hopkins *News-Letter* welcomes letters to the editor. Letters should not exceed 250 words. Letters must be delivered to the Gatehouse by Tuesday at 7 p.m. or emailed to [News.Letter@jhu.edu](mailto:News.Letter@jhu.edu) for inclusion in that Thursday's issue. All letters received become property of *The News-Letter* and can not be returned. The *News-Letter* reserves the right to edit for space, grammar and clarity. Letters must include the name, address and telephone number of the author. Only one author's name may be included. Groups, teams and other organizations may not submit letters, only individuals. The *News-Letter* reserves the right to limit the number of letters printed.

### Judging Sheila Dixon

On Tuesday, Baltimore Mayor Sheila Dixon was found guilty of embezzlement after using \$630 worth of donated gift cards meant to help needy families for her own personal expenses. The conviction caps off more than a year-long, and still ongoing, investigation of corruption in City Hall. Of the numerous charges brought against Mayor Dixon, only one thus far has resulted in indictment.

Corruption has been a problem in the city of Baltimore for years. *The News-Letter* approves of the recent efforts to curtail this rampant corruption if it is for the right reasons. If Dixon's conviction is part of a greater movement to significantly reduce corruption and ensure the efficient use of taxpayer money, then we acknowledge the importance of these lawsuits. However, if this is nothing more than a display and the city is not making sincere strides to institute higher moral standards, then we question the ultimate goal of the proceedings.

In the middle of an economic recession, high crime, failing schools and rampant drug usage, the trial of Dixon is distracting us from the real problems Baltimore faces -- problems much bigger than the \$630 she spent. This page does not think the mayor should get a free pass because Baltimore has issues. Indeed, if the alle-

gations of perjury and further embezzlement are proven true, she should be removed from office. Still, this page cannot help but note the remarkable attention given to this case, both financially and in terms of media coverage, when, as we mentioned, there are real problems in Baltimore.

No one is above the law. Dixon should stand trial and her actions, regardless of causality, are undoubtedly deplorable. Perhaps the trial of Dixon for the theft of gift cards is a first step in a larger crack down on government corruption.

However, we fear officials will simply pat themselves on the back for "taking on corruption" and the public's attention will turn to the latest scandal. Maybe next time Baltimore City Councilwoman Mary Pat Clarke can pretend to hide in a silver balloon in a desperate bid for a reality TV show -- apparently we will take any media circus just as long as we do not have to pay attention to the real issues.

Again, this page is deeply disturbed by Dixon's greedy use of charity money. However, we are cautious of supporting the State's Attorney's investigation out of fear that this is the fish at the end of the line. We hope that the State's Attorney will continue to reel in corruption without detracting from the real problems of Baltimore.

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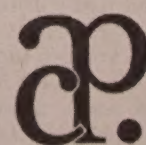
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# OPINIONS

## Disney's Attempt at Political Correctness Is Awkward

I am a lifelong lover of all things Disney. I regularly watch *Hannah Montana*, I supported the *High School Musical* phenomenon, and for most of my youth I planned on living inside the Enchanted Castle at the Magic Kingdom. As this last detail implies, I have a special place in my heart for the Disney princesses; in fact, to this day, [www.disneyprincess.com](http://www.disneyprincess.com) is my homepage.

This being said, you can imagine I was thrilled to discover that Disney would be coming out with a new film in the classic style with a whole new princess (Tiana) based on the story of the Frog Prince by the Brothers Grimm.

Euphoria. Absolute euphoria. I opened up my homepage and therein the center was this new, totally gorgeous princess smiling up at me. My first thought was "YES!" My second thought was, "It's about time Disney had a black princess!" However, while most reviews felt the animation was fresh and the score (courtesy of musical stalwart Randy Newman) was full of toe-tappers, there was a general consensus that there was something just a little "off-color" about the film itself.

I happen to agree. The entire concept screams of political correctness in a way that is almost too awkward to bear. The story in and of itself is so utterly contrived that one cannot avoid the fact that Disney was going out of its way to create a situation in which there could be a black princess. Where *The Lion King* had previously failed to coronate an African American princess (and indeed used all of Disney's continental African mojo in the process), the producers of *The Princess and the Frog* were driven to succeed. Tiana (originally named Maddie, but renamed in 2007 because Maddie was too racially charged) is a waitress aspiring to be a chef in New Orleans in the 1920s. While

attending a costume ball at her friend Charlotte's mansion, she is mistaken for a princess by Naveen, the jazz-obsessed Prince who has been transformed into a frog by evil villain and voodoo doctor Facilier.

Firstly, using New Orleans for the setting is not only desperately cloying for the nationalistic pride vote, but showing just how hard the producers had to try to find a setting in which this story could feasibly take place. Clearly this was a stretch or they wouldn't have had to make the villain be a sinister witch doctor; James Bond barely pulled that off in *Live and Let Die*, and in that case it was only because the real bad guy was Dr. Kananga. The idea here that an ordinary girl has to dress up to be a princess is not new (take Cinderella, Belle, etc.), but the idea that the setting would need to import a prince from a made-up country is: there were no princes in 1920s New Orleans (or in America at all) which makes an unfeasible story even more of a stretch.

Secondly, what is the likelihood that an African American girl would be best friends with a rich white one in the Bayou in the 1920s? The film's creators made the prince white, so technically they already have their inter-racial relationships bases covered. Thinking about the movie from a child's perspective



JUSTIN JONES/GRAPHICS STAFF

(or rather that of a parent prospectively showing it to his or her child), it seems savvy to show how people from diverse backgrounds can be friends in spite of their differences. However, while there's no reason why a child's film should be a lesson in civil rights, it shouldn't rewrite history either (or attempt to make up for movies like *Dumbo* and *Song of the South*).

Thus we enter the murky gray territory of political correctness. With terms coming in and out of fashion as often as computer technology, it's easy to get one's hand caught in the "racist" cookie jar for saying something offensive which had been correct the day before. So what is politically correct? Is it politically correct for Disney to set out to blatantly make a movie about a black princess, and then flagrantly pretend that that's not what they're doing? Is it bet-

ter to acknowledge that they contrived a story to fit their quota or better to ignore it?

It's hard to know what is acceptable when the rules keep changing. For this specific situation, it would seem almost impossible to avoid some sort of political incorrectness, when, even in attempting to make the film as P.C. as possible, the producers end up being just as (if not more) offensive by trying to ignore the issues at hand. It is not possible to make something that is inherently not politically correct into something that is; making a film about a black princess in order to have a film about a black princess will always seem like a film made for the sake of having a film about a black princess.

In a way I pity Disney: even if they made a film which just so happened to feature an African-American princess, to a certain extent the character's race would be an issue no matter what. However, the *Princess and the Frog* is just a little too disingenuous to pass for that; the story seems to be hinging on the feasibility of a character of a particular race being a princess, not about a princess who happens to be black. This is a general paradox: the harder we try to be P.C., the harder we fail. P.C. terminology changes every 10 years because it never seems quite right; no term will ever be quite right because as long as we separate people into groups, names will always be pejorative to a certain extent. Maybe if we didn't try as hard to make the differences okay, we wouldn't be forced to try to mask the fact that we're still emphasizing differences.

*With the exception of editorials, the opinions expressed here are those of the contributors. They are not necessarily those of The Johns Hopkins News-Letter.*

## Defending Stupak-Pitts

By MICHAEL PISEM

A few weeks ago, I was reflecting upon a phenomenon all too common in American politics these days. When politics and morality collide, our discussion devolves into a mostly irrelevant argument over the world's religions. It has become too unpopular to argue principles, so we rely on attacks on people and institutions we don't like. Very often, this results in vitriolic smears against my faith, that of the Roman Catholic Church.

When I opened up the last issue of *The Newsletter*, I was unsurprised as I read Steve Iannelli's "The Real Problem with Stupak-Pitts." In it, he claimed to argue that the Stupak-Pitts Amendment, the amendment which prohibited abortion funding in the House of Representatives' healthcare reform bill, "is a violation of the Free Exercise Clause of the First Amendment." It isn't.

The Free Exercise Clause states that the government cannot violate your right to freely exercise your religion. I'm unaware of any religion that requires its women to have abortions. Abortion is not an exercise of religion. Even if it were, Stupak-Pitts does not ban abortion, it just ensures that federal money will not subsidize the procedure. As it is right now, most health insurance plans do not provide abortion coverage. Bart Stupak is simply trying to ensure that those that do cover them do not get federal funding to help them do so.

Last issue's opinion piece suggests that abortion is beyond restriction due to the fact that certain religions permit it. I think that's a line of reasoning we better put to rest. Some religions permit parents to beat their children. Does that deserve its very own federal subsidy?

Even liberal judges like our newest Supreme Court Justice, Sonia Sotomayor, have ruled that the government has no obligation to fund abortion. Arguments to the contrary are on very shaky legal ground.

It did not take much to see that the author's "real problem" was not primarily with the Stupak Amendment at all. It was with the Catholic Church. You see, the amendment apparently represents the principles of that "morally questionable institution."

He is, of course, correct that Catholics across the country, including Catholic bishops, stood up and exercised their rights as American citizens, telling their representatives that they do not want to be forced to pay for abortions. This is not, however, a strictly religious issue. According to a recent CNN/Opinion Research Corporation poll, 61 percent of Americans favor a ban on the use of federal healthcare funding to subsidize abortions. A majority of Americans also believe that women who want abortions should have to pay the full cost of the procedure out of pocket. The Catholic Bishops did not force Stupak-Pitts on the House. The American people did.

Unable to substantiate the claim that Stupak-Pitts is a violation of the Free Exercise Clause, the author changed course and decided to make more unsubstantiated claims to explain why he holds "a strong contempt for the Catholic Church." He accused the Church of banning children's books. Really? The Church couldn't ban books if it wanted to do so. It used to keep the *Index Librorum Prohibitorium*, which was a list of mostly theological books that Catholics were told to avoid because they held misleading doctrinal positions. Pope Paul VI abolished that list in 1966. I guess facts do not matter when you're smearing Catholics.

He also accused the Church of "furthering the AIDS problem in Africa." A full half of anti-AIDS programs in Africa are run by Catholic organizations. Catholics treat one in four AIDS sufferers worldwide.

I cannot make anyone become Catholic, nor can I force anyone to support Stupak-Pitts. Even so, "The Real Problem with Stupak-Pitts" was a dishonest smear campaign and people of honesty and good will should demand that arguments be based on facts, values and reason rather than on bigoted tirades.

Catholic bishops have every right to try to live up to Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s vision for churches in American society. King hoped that the church would be, "not the master or the servant of the state, but rather the conscience of the state." Just as the Catholic Church stood with the leaders of the civil rights movement, it now stands for the rights of the unborn.

When the moral leaders of 25 percent of Americans cannot talk to Congress about a healthcare bill, but morally questionable organizations like the SEIU (whose members recently brutally beat a conservative African American while screaming vile racial slurs) can go to the Capitol to help write it, America will truly be a lost nation. America is a great country where every group has the right to advocate its views. Planned Parenthood and NARAL can do that. The Catholic Church can do that, too.

*Michael Pisem is a junior international studies major from New York, N.Y.*

## Youth of America: Unite!

The majority of young Americans today are liberal idealists moved by a visceral reaction against the Bush era. The numbers speak for themselves: Nearly half of 18-29 year olds (47 percent) identify as Democrats compared to 28 percent who identify as Republicans (according to Young Democrats for America).

For the last three general elections we have been the Democratic Party's most supportive age group. However, the social reforms of the Democratic Party which we so fervently support do not benefit us. In fact, the exorbitant cost of reforms such as Obamacare, when added to those of Social Security and Medicare, will only damage our chances for prosperity.

Instead of bravely fighting for our future, we are fighting against our future. Actually, to be fair, we are not doing much fighting at all and this is the whole problem. The youth are the largest underrepresented minority in American society and we are fast becoming the most oppressed as well.

The US Census Bureau reports that barely 49 percent of 18 to 24-year-olds voted in the last presidential election, as compared to 69 percent and 70 percent for those aged 45-64 and 65-plus respectively. On every issue, our needs and desires are outweighed by those of the older populations who not only vote but lobby to Congress with powerful, 40-million-member organizations like AARP (American Association of Retired People). Here are some of the key issues we should be battling:

**Obamacare:** Young people are least likely to need health insurance because

we tend to be healthier than the remaining population. With good reason, we often choose to go uninsured. While young adults constitute 18 percent of the adult population, we make up 28 percent of the uninsured adult population (according to a study by John Holahan and Genivieve M. Kenney of the Urban Institute). By imposing an "individual mandate," the current health care bill will require that we purchase health insurance or face a fine proportional to our income.

Many of us may prefer the fine over health insurance because of how unaffordable health insurance will be under Obamacare. In most states, because older individuals are much higher risk customers, they "pay six or seven times in premiums what younger people do," as economist Anne Kim told *Fox News*. But the Senate bill would impose a ratio of no greater than 3-1 and the House bill, 2-1. A study by the Urban Institute found that a 2-1 ratio would push premium costs for young people up by almost \$1,100, thus dropping them a little less than \$3,000 a year. Not satisfied, the AARP is pressing Congress to make our premiums identical with those of the elderly. Essentially, in order to make health care more affordable for the older population, Obamacare would force us to subsidize their health insurance.

This is ironic considering that we are the poorest segment of the population. We have not had time to build up capital, many of us have accrued student loans and after graduation we face a crippled economy due to no fault of our own (college graduates currently face a 40 percent plunge in

employment opportunities according to a study by Michigan State University). Yet the government plans to take from us, the poor, and give to them, the rich: Robin Hood in reverse. As one of our few supporters, Robert Samuelson of *The Washington Post* said, "We have become a society that invests in its past and disfavors the future." And yet polls consistently show that under-30 voters are the staunchest supporters of Obamacare! Are we lemmings?

**Social Security and Medicare:** The proportion of the population collecting Social Security increases daily as longevity increases and the large baby boom generation (78.2 million Americans) enters retirement. There are simply not enough young working people to pay for the benefits of the retirees. Without dipping into general tax revenues, the Social Security system will soon go bankrupt. It is projected to run a \$10 billion deficit in 2010 and \$9 billion deficit in 2011. Cutting benefits is not only unlikely but also insufficient. In order to forestall bankruptcy, our taxes will have to increase dramatically. Former Treasury Department economist Bruce Bartlett says that every taxpayer would have to pay 13 percent more in income taxes just to make sure that all Social Security benefits currently promised will be paid. Furthermore, he points out that if you add Medicare parts A, B and D into the equation, "The federal income taxes for every taxpayer would have to rise by roughly 81 percent to pay all of the benefits prom-

ised." In cold cash terms: "The total unfunded indebtedness of Social Security and Medicare comes to \$106.4 trillion . . . but the nation's total private net worth is only \$51.5 trillion . . . In effect, we have promised the elderly benefits equal to more than twice the nation's total wealth on top of the payroll tax."

Again, the deficit is growing and is projected to be \$17.1 trillion 10 years from now (\$50,000 per American). And we are going to have to pay for it. Unless we make drastic efforts to cut benefits and control spending, we will face unprecedented tax levels and a ruined economy. The American dream

## Prateik Dalmia

of economic success and the "pursuit of happiness" will become an artifact of the past. This is the devastating outcome of a democratic system in which 18 percent of the voting population blindly allows itself to be plundered by the actions and decisions of the other 82 percent.

Thus it falls to our generation to fight the battle for fiscal responsibility — not only out of our own self-interest but also out of concern for the future of America as a whole. In terms of real interests, we have the greatest stake in the long-term future of America. We need to wake up, spread the word, inundate our congressmen and senators with letters and fulfill our obligation to ourselves and this nation. Obaman idealism is the opiate of the young. Youth of America, Unite!

*Prateik Dalmia is a sophomore international studies major from Novi, Mich.*

## The Porn Generation

By LOGAN QUINN

'Twas a night before midsummer, and all through the middle-American house, not a creature was stirring, except for a pre-teen boy excitedly looking at free porn on the computer in the family room.

His expression resembles that of a Christmas morning: wide-eyed and eager, he has an acute sense of vitality. Eventually the boy will grow up, he will realize there is no Santa Claus (and thank God, because that means he's not watching you all the time), but this love for self-gratification will never fade. For a low rate of \$15.99 per month, you too can give the gift of porn to a hormone driven adolescent male. You wouldn't take this feeling away from him would you?

205 million: the number of hits when you Google "porn". It has been said that two-thirds of internet bandwidth is dedicated to the transfer of pornography across the great wires of the interwebs and into homes across America. Basically, for the internet, porn is the reason for existence. And it definitely wouldn't have progressed as rapidly without this demand.

*Logan Quinn is a public health and political science majors from Honolulu, HI. He is the opinions editor for the News-Letter*

In fact, you could say that porn is a major reason for the progression of society.

As far back as the early origins of ancient Greek and Roman civilizations there is evidence that interest in sex went beyond merely procreative pursuits, meaning sex has always been recreational. Graffiti that littered the walls of common bath houses and brothels was far more offensive by modern standards than any contemporary defacement of public property. Orgies and mistresses were accepted practices and actually expected of nobility. These primitive, yet undeniably explicit renditions of fornication provide the historical backdrop for what we already know intuitively: sex has always had a pervasive effect on the societies built by man. It may have taken a back seat once religion took hold, but often the most pious are also the most deviant. Victorian ideals forced sexual dialogue out of the public sphere, but it couldn't force it out of the public consciousness; you can't stop people from thinking illicit thoughts.

Yet if we are to believe Ben Shapiro, Harvard Law graduate and political blogger, our overly sexualized culture represents a moral decay that will ultimately end in our collective ruin if not overcome. For him, there is something wrong with

the widespread culture of sex within our generation; it is making us amoral and unfeeling. Our generation's view on sexual relationships resembles that of a 14 year-old boy and his Kleenex box.

But in the midst of this darkness we will be shown new light by Ben's words. He calls himself "a conservative army of one," here to save us from our wickedness. He alone would hold a mirror to my generation so that we may also view the licentiousness going on all around us. Like we need a mirror to locate people having sex. He alone would stand up for the innocence of young, beautiful, sexually vibrant women and encourage them to remain chaste. He alone would save us from our sins of lust. Ben Shapiro and Jesus: saviors of the damned.

But how is life so differently than it was before? Why do we now need to address the issue of sexual promiscuity? Granted, my generation is less sensitive to sex than previous generations have been. Personally, I was looking at porn on the internet before I knew what to do with it. Did Ben miss something? He lived in a dorm in college, yet he attacks the acceptance of "sexile" and "dormcest." Was he not entertained? If nothing else your roommate's sexual exploits mean you're never short on humor.



# Big Game Night

December 9th • 5pm - 8pm



*Carved Wild Boar Ribs*  
*Cranberry BBQ Sauce*

*Grilled Venison Sausage*  
*Apples, Pears and Onions*



*Grilled Bison Burgers*  
*Bacon and Cheddar Cheese*

*PLUS: Carved Wild Salmon*  
*And John Shields' Signature Vegetarian*  
*"I Can't Believe it's Not Crab" Cakes*

**Fresh Food Café**

No additional charge for students on AT, 14, 7 or Block 50 plans  
\$16.00 for Dining Dollars  
\$16.80 for JCASH, cash and credit customers.



# THE B SECTION

The Johns Hopkins  
News-Letter

Your Weekend • Arts & Entertainment • Cartoons • Science & Technology • Sports

DECEMBER 3, 2009

## It's Good!

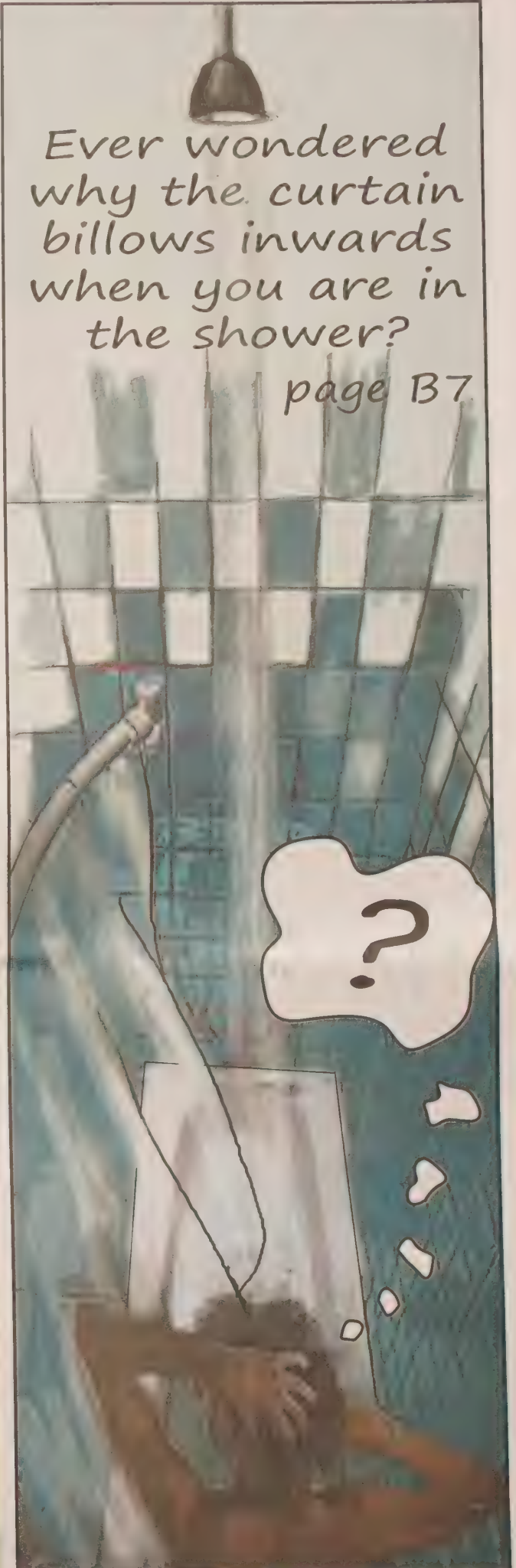
Hopkins football advances to third round of NCAA tournament with a last-second field goal.



page B12

Ever wondered why the curtain billows inwards when you are in the shower?

page B7



### INSIDE B SECTION



#### ARTS

• Journey back in time with the Walter's Museum's newest exhibit, *Mummified!*, B4.

#### SPORTS

• Check out the end-of-the-season recap on Women's soccer, B12.



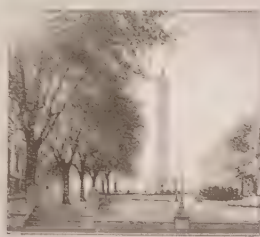
# YOUR WEEKEND DEC. 3 - 6

## Events

### Thursday

#### Lighting of the Washington Monument

5:30 p.m.  
Mount Vernon Monument  
This evening's event includes strolling entertainment, refreshments and the official lighting by Mayor Sheila Dixon, ending with a colorful fireworks finale choreographed to music.



COURTESY OF EHOW.COM

#### U.S., Afghanistan, and Pakistan: Moving Forward

7 p.m. to 9 p.m.  
Charles Commons Ballroom  
Panel of: Daniel Markey, Senior Fellow for India, Pakistan and South Asia at the Council on Foreign Relations (and Hopkins alumnus), Marvin Weinbaum, a Scholar-in-Residence at the Middle East Institute; former Afghanistan and Pakistan Analyst at the U.S. Department of State, and Stephen Cohen, Senior Fellow at the Brookings Institute. Presented by College Democrats, College Republicans & South Asian Students at Hopkins.

#### Ketzev Fall Concert

8 p.m. to 9 p.m.  
Bloomberg Auditorium  
Featuring music from Black Eyed Peas, Guster, Natalie Imbruglia, Gilat Hillel and more. Opening: UMBC's Cleftomaniacs.

#### Earth and Sky

8 p.m. (also on Friday and



COURTESY OF JHU.EDU/-KETZEV/

### Saturday

#### Swirnow Theatre

Enjoy a night of elemental mystery presented by the Dunbar Baldwin Hughes Theatre Company. By Douglas Post, directed by Mr. Ben Dorsey. \$3 JHU Students, \$5 Public.

### Friday

#### Octopodes Fall Concert

8 p.m. to 10 p.m.  
Bloomberg Auditorium  
Featuring songs by Lady Gaga, The Fray and Kelly Clarkson. The University of Delaware Y Chromes opens.

#### Throat Culture Fall Bonanza

Arellano Theater  
9 p.m. (also on Saturday at 8 p.m.)  
Sketch and improv comedy, \$2 admission.

#### BME Winter Social

7 p.m.  
Levering Hall  
Experience in at least one BME course preferred.

#### Buttered Niblets Improv Show

7:30 p.m. to 8:45 p.m.  
Arellano Theater  
Sketch Comedy. \$1 admission with the opportunity to stay for a Throat Culture performance.

#### Friday Night Films

8 p.m. to 1 p.m.  
Mudd 26  
The last free movie of the fall semester: *Taking Woodstock*.

#### Tomorrow and Tomorrow and Tomorrow Take 2

8 p.m. (also on Saturday at 2 p.m. and Sunday at 7 p.m.)  
Merrick Barn

A revival of the new full-length play by award-winning student playwright, Eric Lovitz.

## Night of 100 Elvises



COURTESY OF CROWDOZER.COM

Don't tell anyone: Elvis is alive.

In fact, he's been cloned 12 times. Once a year they come together at Lithuanian Hall on the 800 Blk. of Hollins St. for the Competitive Elvis Lingers' Stuff, known to lay people as Night of 100 Elvises (or, as I have just dubbed them, Comp-El-Ling-Stuff).

Now, do not judge their singing abilities by their math. Then again, I'm an arts and crafts major, maybe 100 does equal 12 somehow.

Either way, for \$55 dollars, you can buy yourself an unending supply of "premium draft

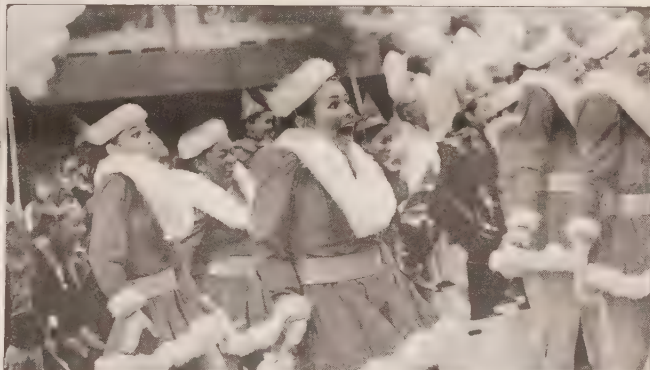
beer and soft drinks," a buffet "featuring some of Elvis' favorite dishes," and all the Elvis you can get.

I'm going to assume that the ticket also provides a loaf of Italian bread stuffed with peanut butter, bacon and grape jelly for your enjoyment.

The 12 artists will be singing all of Elvis' tunes. But there's a catch: None of the artists are allowed to sing the same songs and they can't repeat any either. If you are a true Elvis fan, then this is an event you just can't miss.

— Michael Ferrante

## Mayor's Annual Christmas Parade



COURTESY OF OTAZOO/WORDPRESS.COM

Now this is a must-do for you hipsters out there. The irony is just too delicious.

A parade, celebrating a holiday based on good will towards men and helping thine neighbor and all of that other Jesus junk, hosted by the good Mayor of Baltimore, who was just convicted for stealing \$525 dollars in gift cards intended for charity.

Yes, the great Mayor of Baltimore sponsors The Mayor's Annual Christmas Parade on Sunday Dec. 6 at 2 p.m.

The parade is replete with floats, marching bands and Miss

Yuletide, Maggie Tehrune.

This is another very good date idea because it is freer than that drunk girl with daddy issues at (insert frat party of your choice here).

Just pack another thermos of hot cocoa (hipsters, cocoa is too processed. Just bring some yerba mate), your Snuggie (hipsters, bring your self-knitted organic yarn afghan) and Christmas cheer.

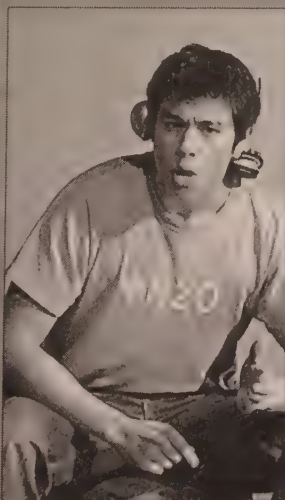
If you are really lucky, Sheila Dixon might just give Baltimore an early Christmas present and resign.

— Michael Ferrante

## Throat Culture

They say satire is the highest form of art. Well if that's the case, you won't want to miss JHU's most refined artistic minds (and throats) in action this Friday. Get in "free" by catching the prior Buttered Niblets Improv Show, and just stay for the Throat Culture show. Hmm... this reminds me of getting into PJ's Pub.

— Ming Wen



COURTESY OF JHU.EDU

## Concerts

### Sonar

### Thursday

Main Stage at 9 p.m.:  
Beanie Sigel • Sheek Louch • Styles P of the L.O.X. • Grafh and more TBA

### Friday

Cub Stage at 8 p.m.:  
Company of Thieves and Annuals

### Sunday

Main Stage at 7 p.m.:  
Insane Clown Posse • (HED) P.E. • The Dayton Family • Hagertown Skeez and Homicidal Maniaxe

### Ottobar

### Thursday

Nightmare of You • Destry • Vinny Vegas • Hiphopmcdougal

### Friday

Negative Approach • Sick Weapons • Wasted Time • Deep Sleep

### Saturday

DJ's Matt Walter and Craig Boarman bring a night of Indie, Britpop, New Wave, Electro, Soul and more

### Saturday

Perks • Streets on Fire • Wild Eyed Willow • Better Red Than Dead

### Recher Theatre

### Thursday

Holly Cole, A Night Before Christmas

### Friday

Jonathan Coulton

### Saturday

Kentavius Jones

### Sunday

Greensky Bluegrass

## The holiday season takes off in Hampden

Okay, so we don't exactly live in Manhattan and Mara Wilson of yesteryear and her cute little gap-toothed smile and endearing lisp won't be there to greet you. But in the delightful tourist-trap neighborhood known as "Hamden," but spelled, "Hampden," the diligent denizens of 34th St. have once again put on a spectacular display of lights, creativity and Christmas spirit.

In fact, this is the 62nd year in a row these Baltimore inhabitants have increased their monthly carbon foot-prints electric bills tenfold to bring a spectacular display of all things holiday.

And I'm not talking Plain Jane, Ho-hum Howie stuff. One house even has a hubcap Christmas tree. That's right, it's made of hubcaps. But the most wonderful part of this Winter-fest of Lights is the cost: it's free.

Which makes this the perfect date idea. Take a delightful walk to Hampden. You can chat on the way, then ooooh and aaaaah when you see the lights, take photos and even tour houses that are open to the public.

Be careful, though, this date could cost you something if you get caught by phonies going around begging for "donations" to offset the costs of the lights.

According to the official Web site, the good people of 34th St. do not ask for money to do this. The people asking for money are Scrooges abusing the spirit of Christmas. If so approached, might I suggest a very apt retort, "Bah-humbug, douchebag."

— Michael Ferrante



COURTESY OF ABOUTOON

## Events

### Saturday

#### Dodgeball Tournament

4:30 p.m. to 9 p.m.  
Ralph S. O' Connor Recreation Center  
EWB Guatemala Team hosts a JHU-wide dodgeball tournament. Sign up is for teams of 5-8 people, \$5 per person. A trophy and prizes will be given out. Proceeds go to help fund a trip to help the citizens of a Guatemalan village.



COURTESY DREXEL.EDU

#### Vocal Gone Viral

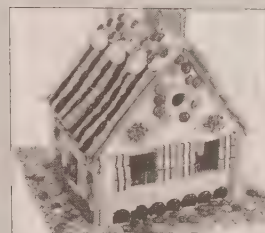
8 p.m. to 10 p.m.  
Shriver Hall  
Featuring Soprano Lori Hultgren, Tenor Richard Crawley, Bass-Baritone Robert Cantrell, and Goucher and Hopkins Choirs: Gounod's St. Cecilia Mass, Faust Act V and arias & ensembles from Tosca, Macbeth, La Forza del Destino, and Otello. Presented by the Hopkins Symphony Orchestra.

#### Stepping Stones Ministry Banquet

6:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m.  
Mottin SDS Room  
Featuring a silent auction to raise money for the ministry and a "for-fun" auction with incentives. \$5 admission.

#### Make Gingerbread Houses with Charles Commons Connections!

12 p.m. to 3 p.m.  
Charles Commons Kitchen  
Decorate a gingerbread house with various Psychology Professors including Dr. Amy Shelton.



COURTESY OF ZEDOMAX.COM

#### Discovering Your Future

12:30 p.m. to 4 p.m.  
Hodson Hall Lobby  
Prominent alumni in finance, government, defense contracting, public health, the natural sciences (including research and teaching) and consulting will be available to answer questions about networking and discuss career options after college.

#### Mental Notes Fall Concert

8 p.m. to 10 p.m.  
Bloomberg Auditorium  
Comedy and music combine for an "hour-long aural orgasm."

### Sunday

#### Mayor's Annual Christmas Parade

2 p.m.  
Medfield - Hampden  
This year's parade begins at Poly / Western High Schools, crossing on to Cold Spring Lane before continuing south via Falls Rd. to 36th St., then turning East on 36th St. before turning North on Chestnut Ave. and ending at 37th St.

#### JHU Gospel Choir Fall Concert

7 p.m. to 9 p.m.  
Mottin SDS Room  
This year's theme is "So Fresh and So Clean." MC Wayne "Holla" Waller and special guest Darnell Moore perform in this event.

## Washington Monument lit for the holidays

What would the beginning of December be without festive holiday events?

I'll tell you: November. On Dec. 3 at 5:30, our great city will be adorning the Washington Monument with lights.

Yes, these lights will cover our fair phallic monument in a prophylactic flurry of light and, at the end, fireworks.

Now, if you thought a little electricity and fire was all that this little soiree had going on for it, well, you were very wrong.

Santa's coming. In fact a lot of Santas will be coming with their tap shoes on.

That's right: there is going to be a dance of aging, obese men slapping the ground like Gregory Hines with half the talent.

Don't get the reference? Look it up. That man deserves your respect.

As if tap dancing Santas weren't enough of a reason to go see the Mount Vernon monu-

ment go up in a blaze of glory, there will be two different choir performances.

The important one is the Handel Choir because when Handel Choirs are good, they can blow minds. Specifically, weak minds, but minds none the less.

And fi-

nally, if you have something against the exorbitant waste of energy this event could cause

know this: this year, BGE provided the lights.

They are the special energy-efficient LED kind.

Now go "ooh" and "aah."

— Michael Ferrante





# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

## Starbucks baristas stir up B'more metal scene

By VIVI MACHI  
Staff Writer

If you are one of the many Hopkins students tragically afflicted with a caffeine addiction, you have probably been to the Barnes and Noble's Starbucks on 33rd and St. Paul to satisfy your fix for the day (or hour). If so, you've probably met Ryan Plunkett and Tony Marley, manager and supervisor of the café, while awaiting your Venti red-eye.

What you may not have known is that behind the green aprons and fancy espresso-making techniques, these two form the rhythmic section for Anubis Unbound, one of Baltimore's exceptionally talented metal bands.

Anubis has steadily gained distinction in the local alternative scene since its conception in 2004, thanks to members' blend of classic, thrash and melodic metal, as can be heard on their latest EP, *Doors of Redemption*. Oh yes, and they all have yet to reach the age of 25.

While the five-piece band has recently been busy playing shows up and down the northeast coast, they return to Baltimore for their last gig of the year this Saturday, Dec. 12 at Bourbon St. It is a worthy study break for even the less metal-inclined.

The *News-Letter* recently sat in on Anubis's Friday practice, where between rehearsing new songs and reminiscing over the past five years, the band discussed the frustrations that accompany the Baltimore music scene and set small fires around the room.

"As I understand it," Plunkett started off, "We formed five years ago, and it was me, Tony, Justin [Severn, vocals] and our original guitarist Larry."

By December of '04, Brian Smith joined as second guitarist and Anubis played their first show. After a year, Larry quit because of creative differences. "We weren't metal enough," Severn laughed as he explained.

The current Anubis lineup,

rounded out by Jarred Sleeth on guitar, should have no problems defending its metal cred. Members' collective influences include As I Lay Dying, Lamb Of God and Pantera. While one can certainly pick out nods to all of these bands in Anubis's music, their sound is very much their own and varies significantly between songs.

Even just the three songs from the *Doors of Redemption* EP could have been written by three completely different bands; it is almost shocking to realize that the breakdown-heavy title track came from the same place as "Circus In My Head," a time-change monster that showcases each of the member's technical abilities.

"We treat practices as if we were performing live," Smith explained before launching into "New Cubed," a song currently in the works, but already set to be a beast once it is finished.

And true to form, through the course of the practice, each member previously seated in chairs or leaning against amps stood up, moved around and started head banging together while still remaining concentrated on their individual parts.

Marley, whose drum kit is unmiked in the rehearsal space, played like he was at a Friday night at Fletcher's, with sweat flying off the skins far enough to reach the couch on the opposite side of the room.

To the untrained ear, any metal song may seem like an endless stream of double-bass pedals, incomprehensible screaming and

chugging distortion.

What Anubis brings to the table is a sort of subtle brilliance; all of the previously-mentioned factors are present here, but well-placed key switches, Plunkett's reggae and funk-inspired bass lines and ridiculously tight harmonies between Sleeth and Smith make them stand out in a scene difficult for bands to thrive in.

"The Baltimore scene is oversaturated," Sleeth said. "You can go out every night of the week for a year and never see the same band twice."

"When we're looking for bands to play with, there are five to six bands that come up, but there will always be bands around that we've never heard of," Plunkett added.

Anubis has played with Rest Among Ruins several times, the alternative metal band boasting Hopkins's own junior Henry Kaldre. They much prefer playing with smaller bands like RAR rather than more renowned bands whose glory days are over.

"Our show with [well-known band] The Misfits last year,"

Severn recalled, shaking his head, "I don't even want to talk about it."

"Other bands playing there were fine though; Biohazard destroyed for being so old," Marley acknowledged. "We've played with Otep and Flaw before, they were great."

Anubis's show on the Dec. 12 should prove to be much more satisfying. They will co-headline with Mark Rizzo of Soul Fly. Local bands including Beneath the Ruins and Fallen Martyr will also be playing.

If you're still doubtful about attending a metal show, rest assured that the 11-year-old fans standing front and center will show you the ropes.

"We love our shows because people from all modes of life come out to see us, and we never hang out in the green room. We'll just hang out at the bar with our friends until it's time to play," Plunkett said.

So embrace your darker side, get a drink and enjoy one of the finer bands that Baltimore has to offer.



COURTESY OF ANUBIS UNBOUND

Frontman Justin Severn gives brutal sounds to Anubis, one of Baltimore's most hard core metal bands.

## Get your Egyptian on at the Walters' *Mummified!*

By ALEC MEACHAM  
Staff Writer

*Mummified!*, a current exhibit at The Walters Art Museum, is interesting, somewhat educational, and a great weekend venture for anyone looking for a nerdy good time.

The Walters Art Museum, located a block away from Peabody, is open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesday to Saturday. *Mummified!*, highlights the Walters Museum's very own well-preserved mummy, Mery. It is an exhibit that is at once serious and playful.

The first part of the exhibit features a few interesting artifacts and two computer stations that offer information on the processes involved in mummification and the cultural and religious significance of this hallowed ritual.

This first section, though, barely holds a candle to the centerpiece of the exhibit: Mery the Mummy. Mery, who is about 4' 9" tall and lived to be somewhere around 60, can be found in a climate-controlled glass case in the center of the room.

She is placed on a "Mummy

board" and is wrapped in linen and plaster. This casing is painted with images, in surprisingly vivid colors, of Egyptian gods involved in the processes of death and renewal: Osiris, Anubis, Horace and Hapi.

Next to the body one finds four canopic jars, or containers for the departed's vital organs. Some might remember these jars from the modern-day popular movie *The Mummy*. Along with these jars are several small, ornate amulets that were at one point sewn into Mery's fabric.

One of the best parts of the exhibit — indeed, of The Walters in general — is the endearing nerdiness of it all. For instance, one panel on the side of the mummy's case explains that, according to a CT-scan of the body, Mery suffered from osteoarthritis and had 16 dental abscesses that likely lead to her death. Quite hilariously, this fact concluded with an exclamation point; at least those in charge of the exhibit find such information exciting.

The exhibits also features photos of three different casings for the body. This three-layered

SEE MUMMY, PAGE B4



COURTESY OF THE WALTERS ART MUSEUM

*Mummified!* allows museum-goers to learn how Egyptians died before mummification.

## Rock out to some of 2009's most noteworthy albums

By MELANIE LOVE  
Staff Writer

Looking back on 2009, most of us will remember the plunging DOW, Obama's first year, Kanye West's antics, Disney superstars' supreme reigns and a whole slew of newsworthy events.

I'll remember where I was when I heard U2's much-anticipated new album, how Bon Iver kept winning my heart, and how John Darnielle of the Mountain Goats musing on religion made me rethink my own hodgepodge of Jewish-agnosticism.

More than ever, music has the power to soothe and uplift, to show that creativity and artistry will always persevere.

Whether you're a glittery tween waiting for the latest Miley Cyrus single or a jaded hipster arguing the merits of Grizzly Bear versus Animal Collective, there's something for everyone in today's vast, brilliant, and constantly evolving musical landscape.

10. Yeah Yeah Yeahs — *It's Blitz!*

The Yeah Yeah Yeahs are at their best when exploring the tender heart beneath their pounding, punky rhythms. Though opener "Heads Will Roll" is full of choppy, glittering energy, Karen O. and Co. mix things up with some stripped-down, positively intimate balladry, proving that softness can coexist right alongside big disco backbeats.

Full of breathless emotion and Karen O's lovely, fervent vocals, *It's Blitz!* isn't as explosive as its (amazing) cover would foretell, but it's an album that engages upon first listen and unfolds as you keep spinning it.

9. Phoenix — *Wolfgang Amadeus Phoenix*

As the best thing to come out of France since freedom fries, Phoenix handily conquered the States with its fourth album, *Wolfgang Amadeus Phoenix*. Chock full of deceptively breezy pop rock gems, this disc floats along in a sunny, synth-driven blur.

Featuring odes to flamboyant 19th century Hungarian composer Franz Liszt (single "Lisztomania") and likening a crumbling relationship to the fall of Rome, Phoenix has crafted a rich, sparkling album that's full of substance and style.

8. U2 — *No Line On The Horizon*

It's impossible for U2 not to do it big, and on the band's latest release, *No Line On The Horizon*, all the elements come together: Brian Eno, Steve Lillywhite and Daniel Lanois' resonant, arena-ready production; Bono's earnest and complicated musings on God, love, and the role of the musician; The Edge's chiming guitar sound.

This disc may not have shifted the predicted massive numbers, but it pleased longtime U2 fans and quick-to-criticize reviewers with its enveloping, intimate, and introspective tone. U2 is a behemoth, and rightfully so.

7. Franz Ferdinand — *Tonight*

All memories of Franz Ferdinand's less than stellar sophomore effort are forgotten with the band's latest: the inventive and ridiculously catchy *Tonight*. Swathed in darkness and intrigue, the Scottish foursome mix

SEE ALBUMS, PAGE B4

## Peabody musician Petanova talks about her music

By NATALIE BERKMAN  
Staff Writer

On Saturday, Anastasia Petanova performed a flute recital consisting of lesser-known pieces by J.S. Bach. The recital was truly chamber music, carefully performed with elegance and finesse.

With the help of a soprano, two violinists, a harpsichord and a cellist, Ms. Petanova played to fulfill the main requirement for her Artist Diploma: performing.

Anastasia Petanova began her flute studies in Russia at the age of four, giving her first public performance when she was five.

"It wasn't really my decision at the time. It was more my family," she said.

Her family noticed that she had perfect pitch and was singing quite often, so they gave her a recorder.

"My mother wanted me to play the violin, but then when she brought me to the teacher, she said, 'You've got to be kidding! There's no way we could get a violin that small!'" Petanova laughed as she recounted.

Petanova comes from a family filled with music lovers, though none have pursued it professionally.

"They all played an instrument at some point in their lives and my mom was actually very good. At one point, her teacher was really encouraging her to be a pianist.

She became a Russian literature professor instead."

Obviously, her family was correct in realizing that Petanova had a talent and a passion for music. Even though initially Petanova did not decide for herself to go into music and performing, it was an auspicious choice.

"Not that I ever regretted it, but sometimes, I wonder what would have happened if I had

played the violin instead," she told *The News-Letter*.

Petanova's past experience includes studying at the Central Music School of the Moscow State Conservatory under Professor Uriy N. Dolzhikov.

She received her bachelor's of music degree from Peabody in 2006 and is currently the first flutist to pursue the prestigious Artist Diploma.

"There's nothing else in the Artist Diploma program except performing and lessons. So, there are no classes, there are no other applications other than your own instrument. That's why everyone loves that program so much," she explained.

Needless to say, Petanova performs a lot. In her music career thus far, she has performed in major concert halls in Russia, other countries of the former Soviet Union, France, Austria, Great Britain, Switzerland, Belgium, Italy, Germany, the United States and Canada.

She has played in master classes, as a soloist with orchestras and at private concerts by herself.

"I think every musician always remembers the concert itself rather than the place. You just remember something about it, the special connection with the audience, the atmosphere and things like that," she said.

Through these types of experiences, Petanova learned about Marina Piccinini, her current teacher at Peabody.

"When I was 14 years old, I went to the master class in

Switzerland where my current teacher, Marina Piccinini, was teaching at the time. Later, when I was thinking of studying abroad, I thought it would be great to study with her — and she had just started teaching at Peabody at the time. So I came to Baltimore."

Marina Piccinini is generally regarded as one of the world's greatest flutists who has worked with and studied under some of the most famous and highly-regarded flute teachers, including Jeanne Baxtresser of the New York Philharmonic and the late Julius Baker, former professor at both The Curtis Institute of Music and The Julliard School.

"She's a great musician, a great flutist, a great person," said Petanova.

"She has a very interesting background. She doesn't really belong to one culture or one country or one language at once and that alone, is a very exotic thing," Petanova said.

"My previous teachers were very different from her, as was the overall musical educational system back in Russia, but if anything, I am thankful for this variety. The more different, the more interesting and enriching, I find."

Music is said to be a universal language, and Peabody, much like Hopkins, exemplifies the interaction of multiple cultures, demographics and nationalities.

In these ways, a Peabody education bridges culture gaps and time, allowing gifted stu-

dents to study with today's great musicians — who were themselves students of great performers.

Ms. Petanova's recital featured the music of J. S. Bach and several other talented musicians who are all friends and colleagues of Petanova: Igor Yuzefovich (violin), the assistant concertmaster of the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra; Timothy Hoff (harpsichord); Zane Baker (cello); Emily Noel (soprano); and Netanel Draiblate (violin).

"They are all excellent musicians and that is what matters the most," Petanova said.

"But to some extent the fact that we all knew each other made it even better and more fun!"

Rehearsing and performing with friends created the intimate chamber feel of the recital, and that is exactly what recitals at Peabody typically are: the sharing of music among friends and colleagues.

"Student recitals at Peabody are mostly for your teacher and your friends, your studio-mates and colleagues. When you perform, in the end, you're performing for people, regardless of what their professions might be," Petanova said.

Petanova views her successful performance as yet another aspect of her education.

"Performance is just another part of the learning experience," she said.

"I think it was a great opportunity to do just that!"

With a concert idea such as this one, this recital was really just testing the water.

"I wouldn't carry out this kind of program without a warm-up, and this was a good warm-up."

Luckily this reviewer was able to witness Petanova's practice.



## ARTS &amp; ENTERTAINMENT

## A look at the best of 2009's fantastic films

By CHRISTINA WARNER  
Arts & Entertainment Editor

From rom-coms to summer blockbusters, a year's worth of film is pretty daunting when looking at as a whole. Lucky for you, we have tackled that daunting task of reflecting on the movies of 2009.

Below is a list of the best (and some of the worst) movies that hit theaters this year. If you're looking for something to rent over the holiday break (or, ahem, illegally download), these would be the flicks worth your time.

10. *X-Men Origins: Wolverine*

While you may have already seen the before-national-release-date leaked version, it may be a good idea to watch the actual version, complete with the original score and full special effects.

It's not like the previous *X-Men* trilogy, but then, it shouldn't be. This is a prequel, after all, and if you've seen all the other *X-Men* movies, then you will appreciate certain elements that explain, or flesh-out, some things from the trilogy.

As a stand-alone, it's a solid action movie — Hugh Jackman and Liev Schreiber are great as both brothers and foils to each other. Plus, there are some pretty nifty mutants introduced in this film.

9. *The Curious Case of Benjamin Button*

It's hard to believe that this movie came out this year. Okay, technically it came out in 2008, but it ran through the first month and a half of 2009, which is impressive in and of itself.

It won a trio of Oscars, as well. If that's not enough incentive to see the the adaptation of F. Scott Fitzgerald's short story, then I'm not sure what is.

It's a bit lengthy, but the make-up and old to young transitions are great. It's an award-winning drama, so it may not be everyone's cup of tea. But it is a worthwhile movie to sit through at least once.

8. *Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince*

If you like Harry Potter, chances are you've already seen this and have already formed your negative or positive opinion. For someone who hasn't read the books since they originally came out, I found it entertaining.



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Balloons carry an unlikely duo on the adventure of their lives in Disney's *Up*.

The *Harry Potter* books are ridiculously long and it's implausible to expect the filmmakers to fit everything into from one book into a single film (perhaps why the seventh book is split into two movies). Thankfully, though, we don't have to watch an hour of Quidditch in this movie.

7. *The Time Traveler's Wife*

Of all the chick flicks released this year, this one was probably the most unusual in plot and unpredictable in ending (although, I would go as far to say that is actually unpredictable).

Eric Bana delves into this romantic drama as a man who shifts through time unpredictably and unwillingly, and Rachel McAdams plays the endearing love interest (a role not uncommon for her). It's sad but perfect for those "I need a movie that will make me cry" moments.

6. *Funny People*

This was an unexpected delight for me. I went into the movie knowing nothing about it and came out very impressed. With a cast comprised of Adam Sandler, Seth Rogan and Leslie Mann, and with Judd Apatow for a director, the humor is expected to be more along the lines of *Knocked Up*.

And, of course, there are a lot of instances when it is. But for the most part, the humor plays away from the "tasteless" sort (as named by 40-something mothers). It's certainly not PG-rated humor, but it's definitely humor with a message. Viewers will find this film a bit more fulfilling than traditional comedies.

5. *Push*

Although not given very many stars by critics, this film is still a decent action/sci-fi flick that is quite resonant of *X-Men*. Up-and-coming actors Chris Evans, Camilla Belle and Dakota Fanning made the film worthwhile, though. It's a solid story line and



COURTESY OF WWW.ALLMOVIEPHOTO.COM

Brad Pitt heads up a troupe of American soldiers looking to scalp "Nat-zees" in *Inglourious Basterds*.

Djimon Hounsou makes for a great villain.

4. *Paper Heart*

Will this be the indie-film of the year or will it just fall flat like the much-anticipated, similar in documentary-style *American Teenager*? Michael Cera ("sorta" indie king of Juno origin) and Charlyne Yi star in this mockumentary about searching for love — a theme we can all relate to.

It's a bit confusing as to what parts of this film are real and which aren't (Yi and Cera were rumored to be dating at one point), but it's full of interviews and off-kilter humor sure to excite the pretentious, indie kid in you.

3. *(500) Days of Summer*

Before you think that *Paper Heart* is this year's sneak-up romantic comedy, don't forget about this one — the anti-romantic comedy. Zooey Deschanel and Joseph Gordon-Levitt (yes, he is that cute, geeky kid from 10 Things I Hate About You) star as the couple that can't work out although their chemistry is perfectly sweet. With a killer soundtrack (Hall & Oates, Regina Spektor and Temper Trap), and quirky characters, you'll be sure to fall in love with it even as the characters fall out of love.

2. *Up*

Disney and Pixar has done it again. This time, the main characters are an aging widower and a chubby wilderness explorer who is 70 years younger than him. But don't think these unconventional animated characters have any less fun as they travel to South America on a balloon-lifted house and get caught up in adventure and excitement.

It's emotional, uplifting and so much more than a kids' movie. Don't let the animation fool you into thinking this isn't worth your time.

1. *Inglourious Basterds*

There are not very many directors whom we would let rewrite a historic event like World War II without criticizing them immensely. But Quentin Tarantino just happens to be one of

those lucky few. When I saw this film, the entire theater was full of boys, guys and old men.

But it's not just a bro's movie. If you like Tarantino, you'll like this. If you don't like him, well, you should give this a try anyway. Brad Pitt is hilarious, but it is Melanie Laurent as the Jewish girl disguised as a French woman who steals the show as femme fatale Soshanna.

The violence isn't as brutal as it could have been (although, the scalping scenes are a bit much) and the many subtitles aren't very off-putting. This might be Tarantino's best yet.

Alternately, there are quite a few films that aren't worth your time. Do I even need to put *New Moon* from the *Twilight* saga on this list? There was too much shirtlessness and not enough of anything else to make it a decent movie.

*Couples Retreat* was a fall movie that relied too much on standard comedic tricks to make it noteworthy, which is disappointing because it had a great cast.

But don't fret. There's still a bunch of releases set around the holidays to round off the year in movies (and remember, this is around the time when expected-award-winners are released). Expect Robert Downey Jr. as Sherlock Holmes, Jim Carrey as the Scrooge and many more characters that will be worthwhile to see on screen.

But as for the rest of the year's movies, take a trip to Blockbuster and check out what you missed.

## The N-L examines this year's most amazing albums

## ALBUMS, FROM B3

in rattling skeletons, synths and some funky structures to create a disc that flows at a frenetic pace.

From the chunky, throbbing beats of lead single "Ulysses" to penultimate cut "Katherine Kiss Me," which strips back the glam of "No You Girls" to become a calm acoustic number, Franz Ferdinand hits the mark with this disc.

6. The Pains Of Being Pure At Heart – *The Pains Of Being Pure At Heart*

It definitely wasn't a great year for most people, but an album like this one can almost make you forget all your troubles. Jammed full with airy, shimmering and danceable tunes, *The Pains Of Being Pure At Heart*'s self-titled debut is proof that pop isn't just slick but sometimes has a real beating heart beneath the sparkling beats.

On standout songs like "This Love Is Fucking Right!" and "Young Adult Friction," TPOB-PAT swerves through jangling melodies, swirls of guitars and energetic drums to craft a blend of perfect, palatable pop.

5. Passion Pit – *Manners*

I bought this disc solely because I fell head-over-heels for "To Kingdom Come," a potent combination of shimmering instrumentation, sweeping pace and evocative lyrics. It just never gets old.

The rest of Passion Pit's critically-acclaimed and hipster-beloved debut album has that same mix of sparkle and texture, with tracks that shift and tangle while still retaining an ethereal pop core. It's a rare thing to tug at your heartstrings and be uplifting, too, but *Manners* does just that, and more.

4. Bon Iver – *Blood Bank EP*

Bon Iver can do no wrong in my eyes, and this EP was just further proof. Hot on the heels of the jaw-dropping, revelatory *For Emma, Forever Ago*, *Blood Bank* was a scant four songs but managed to make an impact as strong as any full-length release.

The title cut tells a vividly creepy love story as only Bon Iver can, while he explores the ubiquitous Auto-Tune on closer "Woods," morphing the cheesy tool beloved by rappers to something expansive and haunting. Most of all, this short EP proves that *For Emma* was no fluke, but

just the first victory in what is most likely to be a string of gems for Bon Iver.

3. Mountain Goats – *The Life Of The World To Come*

On the Mountain Goats' latest, auteur John Darnielle reckons with and reimagines twelve sections from the Bible with characteristic grace and clarity. There are no self-important statements of atheism or fawning over religion here, just a man attempting to reconcile what faith and some familiar stories mean to him in our tumultuous modern world. Darnielle's sentiments are raw and elemental, but his lyrics are as vivid as ever, counterpointed by the stripped-bare acoustic instrumentation. *The Life Of The World To Come* does what every great album should: hit you squarely in the heart.

2. Islands – *Vapours*

This is just a cool album, from the icy blue, '80s-esque cover to the blend of warm pop and artificial electronics contained within. After the weighty baroque of 2007's *Arm's Way*, Nick Thorburn has reunited with former Unicorn's bandmate to craft a set of songs that add some sparkle to a traditional pop backbone.

Thorburn's lyrics are characteristically creepy (car bombs, knife-wielding stalkers, the apocalypse), but delightfully so, particularly when paired with energetic, swerving instrumentation. If anything, *Vapours* presents a more refined Islands, still as imaginative as ever, but willing to pare back their epics in favor of some more shot-to-the-heart tracks.

1. Volcano Choir – *Unmap*

On one of the most interesting collaborations of this year, Justin Vernon paired up with Collections of Colonies of Bees to record a largely instrumental album, deciding to forgo the lush, crooked lyrics that brought him accolades on *For Emma, Forever Ago*.

Why fix what isn't broken, you might ask? Because what results on *Unmap* is a lovely collection of atmospheric tunes that manage to be just as complex and intriguing as Vernon's wordplay on Bon Iver's debut. While you can't really sing along to these chorus-less songs, you can most certainly be moved and inspired by the textured and rich cuts here.

## NEW VIBRATIONS

ARTIST  
**John Mayer**  
ALBUM  
**Battle Studies**  
LABEL  
**Sony**  
RELEASED  
**Nov. 17, 2009**

John Mayer has taken a break from Twitter-ing and serial dating celebrities to release his follow-up to 2006's critically-acclaimed *Continuum*. While that disc was a hard-won effort for Mayer, lending him blues credit after years of creating palatable but flimsy pop-rock, *Battle Studies* tempers that sense of urgency (and his fiery guitar-work).

Though it's still a solid album, chock full of hopelessly relatable romantic sentiment, there is the overriding sense that something's missing, a flatness not evident in the rich, evocative tracks that filled *Continuum* from start to finish.

Still, Mayer can craft some excellent hooks, and this album is one that unfolds upon repeated listening, showing its deep, wounded heart. Aside from a smooth, swaggering cover of Cream's "Crossroads" and the fuzzy, pot-clouded "Who Says," these are all basically love songs — or, to be more precise, heart-break songs.

Opener "Heartbreak Warfare" (which probably should've

been the leadoff single instead of "Who Says") is quietly lovely, with twinkling guitars, muted drums and some bitterly evocative lyrics: "Clouds of sulphur in the air / Bombs are falling everywhere ... If you want more love, why didn't you say so?"

The tension and vigor of *Continuum* has been somewhat smoothed over, but it's like the calm before the storm.

Mayer's songs could be cheesy if they didn't have his heart behind them, seeping through every lyric and chord. On "All We Ever Do Is Say Goodbye," he's pained but resilient, backed by shimmering instrumentation that slowly rises to a crescendo of harmonies, while "Half Of My Heart" has a swerving groove and captures well that feeling of being perpetually divided.

There are a couple of less than stellar moments here, though. Aforementioned single "Who Says" has none of the intensity of "Waiting On The World To Change" or even the shameless catchiness of Mayer's earlier pop-oriented hits, while "War Of My Life" is a bit meandering for such overwrought sentiment. The penultimate cut "Do You Know Me" is also somewhat of a repetitive throwaway.

Not to sound too disparaging, Mayer also hits some great points.

"Perfectly Lonely" is full of bluesy charm, seamless vocals and a defiantly empty-hearted hook.

Meanwhile, "Assassin" puts a nice spin on the otherwise clichéd idea of players loving and leaving, with Mayer playing some fierce solos (a standout on an album that luxuriates more in feeling rather than showy instrumentation).

And though Mayer's "Crossroads" is a bit out of place, it's still a respectful nod to his roots and the guitar gods that came before him, full of loose energy and confidence.

*Battle Studies* comes to a close with "Friends, Lovers or Nothing," which, despite the overtone of its title, has a smooth flow to it, aided by Mayer's buttery vocals and the subtle guitar threaded through. "Anything other than yes is no / Anything other than stay is go / Anything less than I love you is lies," Mayer croons as the song winds to its end, a soulful yet decisive finish to an equally heartfelt album.

When it comes to innovation, *Battle Studies* is a bit of a step back from *Continuum*, particularly since there was a three year gap between studio releases. Nevertheless, there's a lot to like on this disc, the sounds of a man who is surprisingly graceful in revealing his heart-break.

—Melanie Love

## Come see mummies at The Walters

## FROM MUMMY, B3

coffin box set was covered with the same type of illustrations found on the mummy's wrappings.

As one can imagine, the Egyptians were meticulous and scientifically advanced. They wrapped the body first and then encased it in three levels of thick coffins to preserve the body into the afterlife.

In the one of the informational panels, the process of embalming is briefly described. The Priest, called the "Overseer of the Secrets," wore the Mask of Anubis and directed the process. His assistant, "The Seal-Bearer of the Gods," then recited the embalming spell — an essential element in the mummification process.

Accompanying with Mery the Mummy are several other rather gruesomely tiny mummies, one of which is even a young girl with the rest as cat mummies.

Although this is rather disturbing, it is apparent that the Egyptians did indeed keep cats with them to protect them in the afterlife. These are the types of wonderful little facts that make this exhibit entertaining.

Other highlights featured at the Museum, which are mentioned with vague reference with the *Mummified!* exhibit, are The Collector's Study and The Chamber of Wonders.

The Collector's Study is a beautiful room in lovely, dark mahogany wood that is filled with nothing other than fanciful — albeit random — objects.

It is unclear as to who the collector responsible for acquiring all these artifacts actually was, but he has tangibly contributed to the appreciation of the aesthetic and should be accordingly acknowledged. Among the finest items are an ornate alarm clock from Versailles from Revolutionary-Era

France and paintings of some of the great "geniuses" of world history.

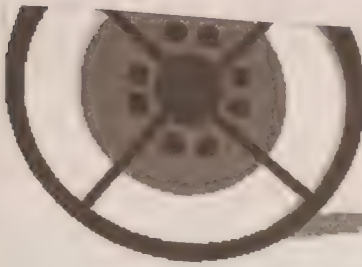
The Chamber of Wonders is everything that the name implies. Filled with one of the most random and delightful assortment of fantastic objects to be seen in all of Baltimore, this room alone is worth the trip downtown.

To give some idea of the wonders to be seen within, above the two doorways on opposite ends of the room are a magnificent moose head and a stuffed alligator. There is a beautiful collection of exotic butterflies as well as a veritable bengal tiger rug on the opposite wall.

On the first sign introducing the *Mummified!* exhibit, the embalming spell for the mummification is shown, which reads, "You will live again; you will live forever. Behold, you are young again forever!"

If you are looking to reconnect with your nerdy side, *Mummified!* is definitely worth a trip.





# ON THE SILVER SCREEN

## Only thing special about 2012 is its effects

By NATALIE BERKMAN  
Staff Writer

On Friday, Nov. 13, the newest box office smash, *2012*, came to theaters everywhere. That day, when everyone usually fears bad luck, director Roland Emmerich (*Independence Day* and *The Day After Tomorrow*) told American moviegoers everywhere that the world will end in the December of 2012.

It's a shame that the end will be so messy and that the media cover up the "real" situation won't work — but that is what people expect to see in movies nowadays. For some reason, movies today cannot seem to survive without special effects. While plots, character development and acting abilities go down the tube, the number of explosions and physical impossibilities appearing on the screen increase exponentially. But it is still depressing that the most successful movies are the ones with the most effects and the fewest redeeming qualities. *2012* was no exception.

The plot was simplistic at best. Ostensibly derived from some sort of vague Mayan prediction (while in reality, this basis for the movie was only minimally referred to at best), *2012* demonstrates the way the world will end once its core begins to heat up.

It was introduced by an astrophysicist in India (Jimi Mistry). The information was carefully delivered to Washington, D.C. and covered up by American geologist Adrian Helmsley (Chiwetel Ejiofor) who, despite the promise of the end of the world, seemed much more interested in the president's daughter (Thandie Newton).

Then, introduce the unsuccessful author (John Cusack), his ex-wife (Amanda Peet) and her new boyfriend (Thomas McCarthy). Emmerich obviously realized that most modern movies include some variant of this typical broken family. A family vacation in Yellowstone National Park introduces Cusack and his

children to a seemingly psychotic hippie (Woody Harrelson) who, through his communist radio show has discovered the government conspiracy to keep the end of the world a secret.

All the audience needs to do is sit back and munch on popcorn as the world crumbles around the characters.

Once Cusack realizes that the crazy hippie had stumbled onto the truth, he takes a limousine and immediately rushes to save his family. They pile into the limo and begin to drive out of Los Angeles, which crumbles around them.

In a video game-esque action sequence, they hit the gas and race against the rapidly deteriorating road, smashing through falling glass buildings and are miraculously the only people who survive.

Now, don't worry. All that

happened only in the first hour, so there is still plenty to see. The acting isn't very stimulating, but at least the effects look "real" (because everyone knows what it will look like when the world falls apart). Scenes that are supposed to be emotional or dramatic fall flat and slow the movie down, while the action scenes that are supposed to stimulate just seem like a joke after a while.

Themes of tolerance and acceptance abound as selfish human beings attempt to save themselves instead of righteously allowing every underpaid Chinese worker a place on the arks they have built.

Overall, this movie promises to be an enlightening three hours, but it is ultimately just a waste. If your mind needs a break from the demanding Hopkins curriculum, then go see it, but first check to see if there is anything better



COURTESY OF WWW.ALLMOVIEPHOTO.COM  
George Clooney and Meryl Streep are among celebrities chosen to voice the lovable Fox family in the film *Fantastic Mr. Fox*.

## Fantastic Mr. Fox captures childhood magic

By RACHEL GREENBERG  
Staff Writer

Roald Dahl has produced some of the best children's books and some of the most endearing characters both in film and literature, but director Wes Anderson, famous for exercises in social dysfunction like *The Royal Tenenbaums* and *The Darjeeling Limited*, does not seem like the most obvious choice to direct an adaptation of an animated Roald Dahl story.

In *Fantastic Mr. Fox*, though, Anderson seems to have transcended this niche, creating a film that works on almost every level.

With a star-studded cast featuring George Clooney and Meryl Streep as Mr. and Mrs. Fox, *Fantastic Mr. Fox* has some of the most important aspects of a successful animated film. The film's stars — quite sophisticated puppets — include the Fox couple's son Ash, voiced by Jason Schwartzman, and their nephew Kristofferson (Eric Anderson), as well as a host of other creatures.

The puppets are artfully crafted and the sets are equally beautiful; the scenes of woods and na-

ture are done in pleasant, warm earth tones and rooms are thoroughly decorated and designed. The film has carefully crafted the world of these suit-wearing, well-mannered wild animals.

When vivacious Mr. Fox is told that Mrs. Fox is expecting, he swears to forsake his risky life of farm-robbing in favor of a desk job at a newspaper. Twelve (fox) years later, Mr. Fox is beginning to suffer a mid-life crisis and decides, with the help of his friend Kylie the possum (Wally Wolodarsky), to resume his life of excitement and foxy thievery by robbing the farms of Boggis, Bunce and Bean.

These farmers are known across the country by the children's rhyme: "Boggis and Bunce and Bean / One fat, one short, one lean / These horrible crooks / So different in looks / Were nonetheless equally mean."

The farmers do not take kindly to Fox's daring purloining, so they invade his home and drive Fox and his family into the ground. As a result, all the forest animals to come together to defeat the farmers and reclaim their lives.

Meanwhile, Ash struggles with his feelings of inferiority next to his younger cousin who is not only taller than him, but also excels in yoga, karate and sports.

Throughout the film, this subplot symbolizes Ash's inability to receive validation from his self-centered and egotistical father.

The charm of this film is in the success of its characters. Each of the animals stands alone as a solid and developed personality. This is particularly noticeable in the loud and brash Mr. Fox, and in the argumentative, awkward Ash.

This strength of the script writing shows through in these humorous characters. The villains are equally as compelling as the heroes. The scenes that feature the evil farmers are some of the best as these characters are typically exaggerated in Roald Dahl's fashion.

Unfortunately, the voice work is inconsistent. Some of the voice performances are fantastic, par-

ticularly from Schwartzman, whose Ash is perfectly petulant and prepubescent. For the most part, though, the film has fallen into the trap of choosing commercially successful actors.

Based on the character voices, it is clear that this choice was largely made for purposes of advertising and not for any particular voice skill of these actors. Mr. Fox, for example, very clearly has George Clooney's voice. He is a fox that sounds like George Clooney rather than having some distinct voice of his own.

Other actors who earned pronounced places in the credits such as Owen Wilson's Coach Skip and Bill Murray's Badger are barely present in the movie. Wilson's Coach Skip, for example, is present in only one scene and only for a few minutes; Wolodarsky, on the other hand, whose Kylie is a main character of the film, does not earn a major place in the advertising scheme.

This somewhat cheapens the movie as a transparent attempt at publicity while more experienced, accomplished voice actors could have been chosen instead.

As one would expect in a film from Anderson, the film is not only designed with children in mind. Many moments in the film depend on an adult awareness, such as Mr. Fox's constant faux-swearing with the word "cuss," or by the discussion between Mr. Fox and Rat (Willem Dafoe) that implies Mrs. Fox used to be a little loose in her morals.

The message of the movie, though, is traditional, empowering and family-appropriate. Mr. Fox learns about responsibility and modesty, while Ash, who struggles with feeling different, is consoled by Mrs. Fox; his mother assures him that, while everyone is different, "There's something kind of fantastic about that, isn't there?"

Anderson's film is a successful interpretation of the work of a beloved author and maintains the charm of a traditional Dahl production, while expressing a new voice immersed in modern animation and film technique.



COURTESY OF WWW.ALLMOVIEPHOTO.COM  
Amanda Peet races to save her children in the unfulfilling, apocalyptic *2012*.

## The Road a better journey on pages than onscreen

By ALEC MEACHAM  
Staff Writer

*The Road*, directed by John Hillcoat and starring Viggo Mortensen, is one of the many adaptations of fine novels that leaves you scratching your head.

Cormac McCarthy's novel, published three years ago, reached immense success and received virtually universal critical acclaim. McCarthy has always been known for his harsh, unforgiving depictions of violence and brutality in the human condition, but his most recent novel displayed almost inconceivable levels of beauty and tenderness.

McCarthy, who is now well into his seventies, says that he wrote the novel having been inspired by and as a reaction to his 8-year-old son. The novel's portrayal of the relationship between the father and the boy is heart-wrenchingly authentic and tender.

As *The New York Times*'s Janet Maslin wrote, "*The Road* would be pure misery if not for its stunning, savage beauty." Maslin hits the nail on the head here: John Hillcoat's adaptation of the novel is exactly that — pure misery.

Although the movie has some stunning visual imagery and the occasional tender emotional moment, it is the gruesome brutality that outweighs these qualities and leaves the viewer feeling simply numbed.

McCarthy's horrid post-apocalyptic vision in the book serves as a backdrop for the focus of the story, the endurance and survival of the father and his son. However, when shown on the big screen, the dark, gray and at times, fiery landscapes seem to take over.

Whereas the dark violence and destitute scenery are left to the

imagination in the novel, they are shown in vivid detail in the movie. Although there are some deft and beautiful shots of grey, ash-covered trees and fiery ridges in the distance, these end up distracting from the focus on the journey of the father and son.

One of the most poignant moments in the film is a shot where the father and the boy are walking through an old abandoned gas station in raggedy clothes pushing a rusty shopping cart. The floor on which they walk is strewn with cash — green bills that are relics of another world existing only in memory.

This theme of memory poses another problem throughout the film. The screenplay stayed remarkably loyal to the novel, however, the major deviations were bothersome. Charlize Theron, who is by all means one of the best actresses that Hollywood has to offer today, plays the role of the mother.

This character, who is mentioned only very briefly in the novel, is fully fleshed out in the film. Although there are a few brief and beautiful memories that come up in the father's dreams, the scenes of their life before and during the end of their world shows a marked change from the original source.

Along with fine cinematography, the film's best quality is Viggo Mortensen's performance. In a ripped and tattered world that is pinning off its axis, Mortensen's character shows strength, determination and most of all, fierce love and loyalty for his son.

Although the character's memories of his past life subtract from the illustration of his devotion to his son, Mortensen shows passion, tenacity and tenderness in his portrayal of the nameless

father. It would be a shame if his name were not mentioned when the Award season comes around.

Some, especially those who have not read the novel, may find the film monotonous and slow. Indeed, the film is truly bleak and the audience members constantly find themselves asking the most important question, "Why do they even continue?"

This question is central to both the novel and film; however, the film falls short in this most important aspect. In McCarthy's novel, although the movement and actions of the two central characters are in fact monotonous and slow, each step seems to be endowed with meaning and purpose.

No matter how bleak their world is, the father and son always seem to be driven by a purpose that goes deeper than

mere survival. Throughout the novel, there is a refrain in which the father and son reassures themselves, "Yes, we're the good guys," and "Yes, we're carrying the fire."

In the film, this deeply rooted understanding of purpose between the father and son is lacking, beaten down by the dark hammerings of cruelty and fate. Instead of being driven towards some abstract goal on the horizon, or on the shore as it is, the two main characters seem lost on the way.

By the end of the film, the question of why the family still continues on is too far distanced by the horrible events that are depicted to even be answered. Instead, a new question arises: "Why did Cormac McCarthy allow his magnificent novel to be made into this?"



COURTESY OF WWW.ALLMOVIEPHOTO.COM  
Mortenson displays intense loyalty towards his son (Smit-McPhee) in *The Road*.

<b>2012</b>	<b>FANTASTIC MR. FOX</b>
<b>Starring:</b> John Cusack, Amanda Peet <b>Director:</b> Roland Emmerich <b>Run Time:</b> 158 min. <b>Rating:</b> PG-13 <b>Playing at:</b> Landmark Harbor East	<b>Starring:</b> George Clooney, Meryl Streep <b>Director:</b> Wes Anderson <b>Run Time:</b> 93 min. <b>Rating:</b> PG <b>Playing at:</b> The Charles Theatre
<b>THE ROAD</b>	
<b>Starring:</b> Viggo Mortensen, Charlize Theron, Guy Pearce, Richard Gere <b>Director:</b> Mira Nair <b>Run Time:</b> 110 min. <b>Rating:</b> R <b>Playing at:</b> The Charles Theatre	



# CARTOONS, ETC.

Blue Jay Brigade

By Kevin Li    **Quentin and Sam**

By Jane Yee



**Quentin and Sam**

By Jane Yee



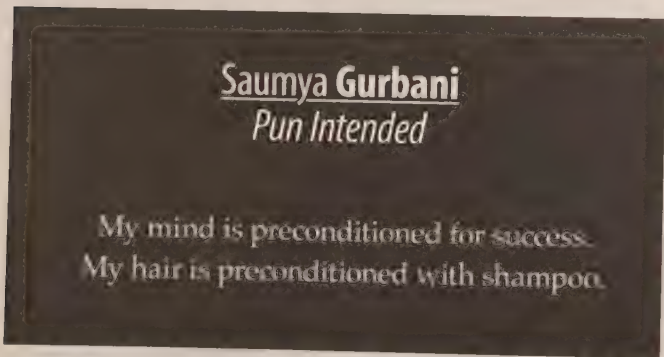
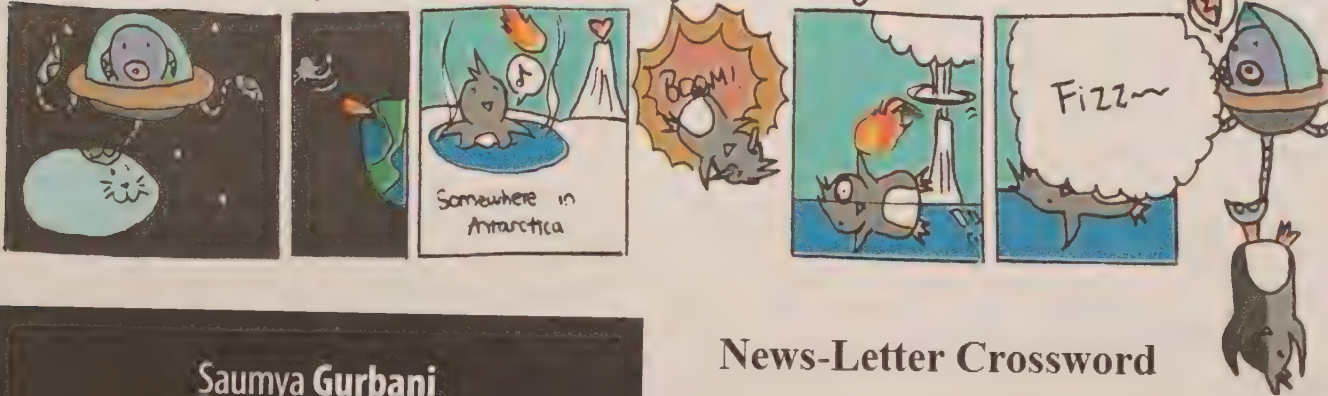
**Blue Jay Brigade**

By Kevin Li

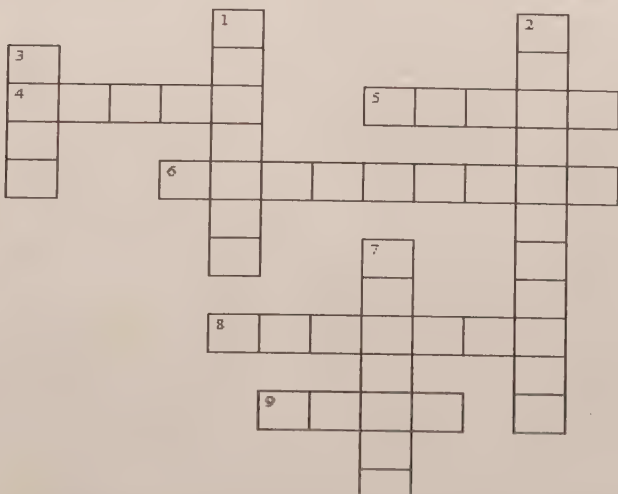


**Findings**

Findings #7: why Tux Hate Tako , A Margin Note Story

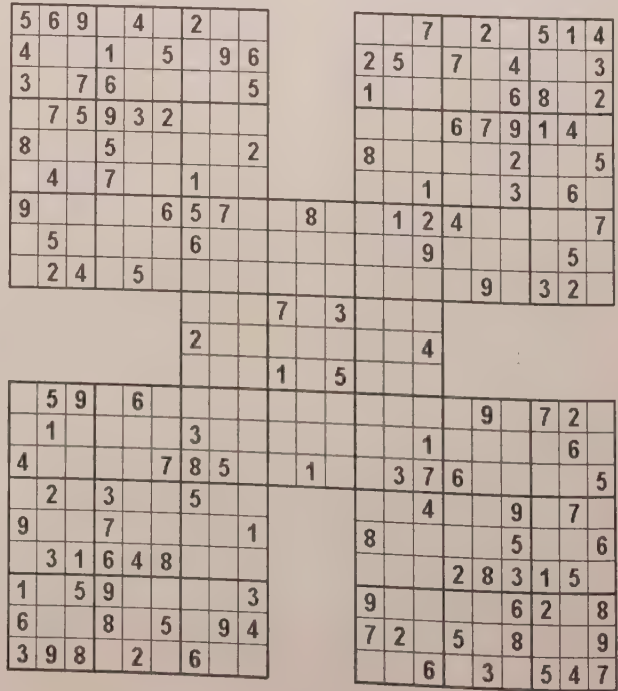


**News-Letter Crossword**



**Challenging Sudoku(s)**

[sudoku.binaryworlds.com](http://sudoku.binaryworlds.com)



**Winter Break Highlights**

By Katie Mann

1. Sleep
2. See Friends
3. Watch TV
4. Shopping
5. Relax
6. Movies
7. Sleep
8. Read
9. Visit Family
10. No Studying

**DOWN**

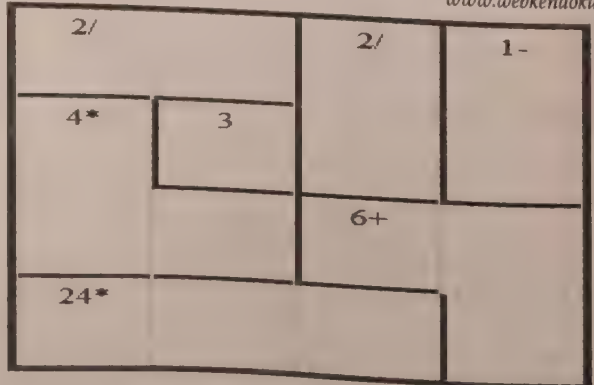
- 1 2009 World Series champions
- 2 Prostate cancer linked to \_\_ levels
- 3 K-Pop singer in the movie Ninja Assassin
- 7 Call of Duty: Modern \_\_

**ACROSS**

- 4 Recent speaker at MSE symposium
- 5 Current mayor of Baltimore
- 6 JHU-APL spacecraft studies Mercury
- 8 Nickname for Charles Street Market
- 9 Annual Lighting of the \_\_

**Ken Ken Puzzle**

[www.webkendoku.com](http://www.webkendoku.com)





# SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

## Study heats up dinosaur metabolism debate

A new hypothesis suggests that most dinosaurs could not have functioned with a cold-blooded physiology

By IAN YU  
Staff Writer

Many of us can state, with certainty, that dinosaurs of all shapes and sizes were cold-blooded, or ectothermic, a fact that has been ingrained in our minds since we were children.

Scientific consensus, however, is not that certain, and has been shifting in the opposite direction towards the endothermic, or warm-blooded, hypothesis. Contributing to this debate is Herman Pontzer, a professor of anthropology at Washington University in St. Louis.

In an article recently published in PLoS ONE, Pontzer and his colleagues utilized two biomechanical methods to predict the metabolic demands of 14 different species of dinosaurs. These species were chosen based on the completeness of their fossil record, its accessibility and the species' ability to represent the evolutionary lineage from dinosaurs to present-day birds.

In addition, these dinosaurs were also bipedal, walking on two legs instead of four, making it possible to base their energy demands off of those of modern-day bipedal animals. The researchers predicted the amount of energy that would be needed for different walking and running speeds for species of all sizes.

Their results strongly support the warm-blooded hypothesis, as even the least demanding of physical activities in the larger dinosaurs, such as a slow walk, demand much more energy than a cold-blooded physiology can provide.

Cold-blooded animals rely primarily on heat from the sun to control their body temperatures, and thus maintain a relatively low metabolic rate. On the other hand, warm-blooded



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Based on the energy requirements of modern upright-walking animals, most dinosaurs may have been warm-blooded creatures.

organisms adjust their metabolism to warm themselves up or cool themselves down, similar to adjusting the thermostat when heating or cooling a room.

"Our results suggest these species would need a warm-blooded physiology, able to deliver oxygen (and therefore energy) at a higher rate," Pontzer said in an e-mail to *The News-Letter*.

Initially, scientists suggested that dinosaurs were cold-blooded, linking them to the reptiles from which the name dinosaur, meaning "terrible lizard," originated. Later discoveries and continually mounting evidence support the reverse.

"Ectothermic systems are limited in the rate of energy that

they can provide. Endothermic physiology can provide energy at a rate that is 10-times higher than that of an ectothermic system," Pontzer said.

From an evolutionary standpoint, scientists still have yet to determine whether warm-bloodedness arose from the need for self-regulation of the dinosaurs' internal temperatures or from the energy demands of their physical activities.

The study did not focus on the relation of size to the energy demands of the dinosaur species. "Size had nothing to do with our analyses per se . . . but it did turn out that the clearest results happened to be for species larger than about 20 kg," Pontzer said. "Still, our meth-

ods suggested the small species were likely warm blooded as well."

Furthermore, this conclusion was based on the assumption that the cold-blooded metabolism of a dinosaur functions in the same way and has the same energy requirements as the modern ectothermic species that were used for comparison. There is a possibility that a very different metabolic process could have allowed for movement in large dinosaurs.

Results from the study show that only the smallest of the dinosaurs examined, *Archaeopteryx*, was capable of having an ectothermic physiology that could fulfill its energy demands for all but its fastest speeds.

There is still much more to this debate, with researchers producing findings that support and refute both hypotheses.

"Both cold-blooded and warm-blooded hypotheses are favored, by different researchers," Pontzer said. "Recently, consensus seems to be shifting toward warm-blooded."

## Magnetic microdiscs target and initiate cell death in tumors

By ANN WANG  
Science and Technology Editor

Scientists working at Argonne National Laboratory in Chicago and The University of Chicago have developed an effective method to target and kill cancer cells using tiny magnetic discs.

The microdiscs, only one micron in diameter, work by disrupting the outer membranes and initiating chemical pathways that lead to apoptosis, or cell death. In laboratory tests, the microdiscs destroyed up to 90 percent of cancer cells after being activated for only 10 minutes.

One major drawback of chemotherapy drugs, widely used to treat cancers, is that they cannot be targeted to tumor cells. These drugs affect the entire body and often cause painful side effects such as hair loss, nausea, fatigue and a weakened immune system.

For several decades, scientists have been trying to develop nanoparticles that can deliver drugs specifically to cancer cells. Although several such methods are now being tested in clinical trials, practical hurdles still remain.

Up until now, effective treatments required high concentrations of magnetic particles and high levels of power to activate them. Both could cause harmful side effects in patients.

The new research offers a potential solution to many of these problems. The team studied an aggressive brain cancer called glioblastoma multiforme. The surfaces of these cancer cells, called glioma cells, contain a much higher concentration of a protein called IL13 than normal cells do.

The microdiscs, each 60 nm wide and 1000 nm in diameter, were made of an iron and nickel alloy, then coated with a thin gold veneer. Gold is both nontoxic to living tissues and easy to modify with organic molecules. The gold-coated microdiscs were then coated with antibodies that would

recognize and bind to the overexpressed protein on glioma cells.

Once introduced into the body, or in this case a cell culture, the antibodies guide the microdiscs to attach to the surface of the cancerous glioma cells, but not healthy cells. About 10 microdiscs attached to each cancer cell.

Because they are discs instead of particles, and much wider than they are thick, the microdiscs have a magnetic property known as a spin-vortex ground state, and they oscillate when an alternating current is applied.

The cell membrane consists of a fluid double layer of lipid molecules, more like the film that forms over a bowl of cold soup. This fluid membrane is easily disrupted by the twisting and turning motion of the microdiscs attached to its surface.

"The spin-vortex-mediated stimulus creates two dramatic effects: compromised integrity of the cellular membrane . . . and initiation of programmed cell death," said Elena Rozhkova, a research scientist at Argonne National Laboratory who

worked on the study.

After they activated the microdiscs, the researchers noticed that most of the cancer cells looked like they were undergoing apoptosis, the controlled pathway towards death that normal cells are programmed to follow once they reach the end of their useful lives.

Cancer cells have developed mutations that allow them to escape cell cycle control and apoptosis. Instead of dying when they should, they divide and grow continuously, forming tumors.

However, the microdisc-treated glioma cells had fragmented DNA and nuclei, rounded shapes and irregular surface bulges (scientific term: blebs), all classic signs of cells undergoing apoptosis.

But the force the microdiscs exerted could not have caused such striking changes in the cells alone.

In fact, the torque exerted by the

SEE MICRODISCS, PAGE B9

## Ask a Scientist: The shower curtain controversy

By HUSAIN DANISH  
Magazine Editor

Why are shower curtains pulled in when you take a shower?

After completing an intense workout at the gym, I was ready to go back to my room and take a nice, long shower. I hopped in and turned on the water. I breathed in the steam and felt all of my tension melt away. Nothing could ruin this moment.

Then it happened. Out of nowhere, the shower curtain attacked me. I tried to shake it off but every time I thought I was free of its grasp, it came back. The clammy curtain clung to my legs.

While "Attack of the Shower Curtains" is not coming to a theater near you anytime soon, clingy curtains are still annoying. Surprisingly, people have actually spent time and money trying to figure out this mystery.

There appear to be several different theories as to why shower

curtains billow annoyingly inward.

Some scientists have argued that it all has to do with buoyancy. When you take a hot shower, the steam heats the air in the shower, causing the warmed air to rise.

In order to replace this rising air, cooler air outside the curtain rushes in, bringing the curtain in with it. This is a fairly simple explanation, but has one major flaw: It doesn't explain why a shower curtain is sucked in during a cold shower.

Other scientists believe the shower curtain conundrum can be explained by Bernoulli's principle. According to the theory, as a fluid — such as water or air — moves, the pressure around it drops. So in the case of showers, the water rushing from the shower head creates this low-pressure area.

Because the tendency in nature is for things to move from areas of high pressure to areas of low pressure, air outside moves into the shower. The curtain is simply

coming along for the ride.

"The water stream creates an air current and low pressure, drawing the curtain toward it," Peter Olson, professor in the department of Earth and Planetary Sciences, said. "This is an example of the Bernoulli principle in aerodynamics."

The same principle explains how airplanes fly. As the wing moves, air is accelerated over the curved top surface, causing the pressure above the wing to decrease. High pressure air below the wing pushes upward, leading to lift.

Another possible explanation for shower curtain behavior is a lesser known phenomenon called the Coandă effect. It is the tendency of a stream of fluid to be attracted to a nearby surface. In the case of the attacking shower curtain, the roles have been switched: The shower curtain is attracted to the stream of fluid.

The source of this attraction is that air around the stream of water becomes turbulent, creating a low pressure boundary. The air rushing into the shower creates suction, pulling in the shower curtain.

So which one is it? Putting an end to the debate once and for all, David Schmidt, a mechanical engineering professor at the University of Massachusetts, used \$28,000 worth of high-powered computer software to model his mother-in-law's bath tub. Two weeks and 1.5 trillion calculations later, Schmidt arrived at an answer. The winner? The Coandă effect.

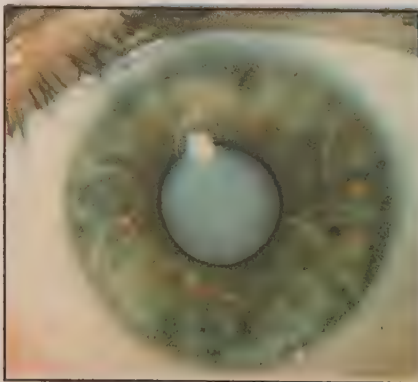
Because of his work, Schmidt was awarded the Ig Nobel Prize in Physics, which honors unusual and imaginative research, in 2001.

Of course, if you don't want to deal with shower curtains, you probably should invest in a shower door or a really heavy shower curtain. Or you could just get rid of it altogether, sacrificing a dry floor and your privacy for a cling-free showering experience.

## Cataract surgery not risky for older patients

By VIVEK SINANAN  
Staff Writer

Scientists have been investigating the link between age-related blindness and surgery used to correct cataracts in persons aged 65 years or older. This is according to research findings of Neil Bressler of the Wilmer Eye Institute, a division of the Hopkins



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Researchers disproved the theory that cataract surgery worsened vision for patients who already had AMD.

School of Medicine, that were published in *Archives of Ophthalmology* earlier this year.

The development of cataracts is known to be the leading cause of blindness internationally. A cataract, which is characterized by an increase in cloudiness of the lens through which light enters the eye, causes blindness in 17.6 million people annually, or approximately 48 percent of all blindness cases worldwide.

Cataracts are also associated with aging, and surgical removal of the cloudy obstruction is the most common and effective treatment.

While cataracts are common across all age groups, age-related

macular degenerations or AMDs is the leading cause of blindness in persons aged 65 years or older. AMD is caused by damage to the retina, which is the tissue located at the back of the eye.

At the retina, light rays that enter the eye are sent to the brain via the optical nerve to be interpreted as the images we see. In persons with AMD, certain images in the central area of vision appear blurred, and it is especially difficult to distinguish faces.

In his paper, Bressler investigates the claim that cataract surgery that is performed in patients who have AMD causes a progression of this condition, thereby resulting in blindness, which the surgery was intended to prevent. He also analyzes differences in the relationship between cataract surgery and one type of AMD: dry.

In dry AMD, or central geographic atrophy, the layers of tissue associated with the retina, especially those that provide the retina with its blood supply, experience a loss of fluid that causes them to separate from each other and cease functioning.

Conversely in wet AMD, or neovascular AMD, there is excess fluid in the eye. This form of AMD is caused by an abnormally large growth of the blood vessels of the retina, which causes leakage of the blood out of the vessels and into the eye. This flow of blood can cause scarring of the retina, which in turn results in the damage that eventually leads to blindness.

Bressler noted that previous research into the relationship

between cataract surgery and wet and dry AMD formulated no definite causation of AMD by cataract surgery. In his paper he identifies some studies that indicate that patients with AMDs who undergo cataract surgery experience a progression of their AMD symptoms.

However, not all studies agree. "Some studies have not provided support for the hypothesis that cataract extraction hastens progression of AMD," Bressler said.

To test the correlation, Bressler conducted a study to determine the progression of AMD during a one year period following cataract surgery in patients with dry AMD that was present before surgery was performed.

By analyzing the eyes of 65 patients who had dry AMD before surgery, Bressler concluded that a relationship between cataract surgery and dry AMD was insubstantial. "Our follow-up study of cataract surgery in eyes with non-neovascular AMD identifies a low rate of AMD progression during the first year after cataract surgery," Bressler said.

Of the eyes analyzed, only three, or 4.6 percent, showed any significant further development of AMD one year after surgery. Bressler therefore concluded that previous studies that demonstrated a causation of AMD progression due to cataract surgery could be a result of bias.

To strengthen his findings, he used a control group of 59 patients who received surgery but did not have dry AMD before the operation. Of these, none developed AMD during the one year period of observation. A substantial relationship between cataract surgery and wet AMD progression remains unproven.



COURTESY OF DAVID SCHMIDT/WWW.FLUENT.COM  
Ig Nobel prize-winning research ended the long-standing debate on shower curtains.



# Brain aging reversed by social, physical activity

By JEFFREY SIEGEL  
Staff Writer

Researchers at Hopkins have implemented a program, Experience Corps, in which retirees work as teaching aides in Baltimore area elementary schools. This volunteer work has been found to improve brain function in the study subjects.

Individuals of retirement age are the fastest-growing sector of the American population today, and most adults will spend about a third of their lives in retirement. As a result, there is a growing interest in studying how people may best preserve brain function, rather than allowing it to erode with time and aging.

"Experience Corps trains and places teams of older adults into local Baltimore City elementary schools to work 15 hours a week with their teacher in grades K-3. They work one-on-one and in small groups with children to improve literacy and math skills," said Michelle Carlson, an associate professor in the Department of Mental Health at the Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, who led this neuroimaging study.

"They are also trained in library support, learning the Dewey Decimal system, to help children identify and locate age-appropriate books."

Carlson's basic question was whether age-related changes in brain activation that occur in late adulthood could be reversed by an activity intervention. "The degree to which the brain could change in old age is thought of as a measure of 'plasticity,'" Kirk Erickson, a co-investigator of the study, said.

"We found that participating in Experience Corps resulted in improvements in cognitive functioning and this was associated with significant changes in brain activation patterns," Carlson said. "Essentially the intervention improved brain and cognitive function in these older adults."

"By traveling to and from school each day, engaging in complex and varied teaching activities and problem-solving, and interacting with children, teachers, and other EC volunteers, volunteers are becoming physically, cognitively and socially active," she said.

"Each of these types of activities has been associated with better cognitive health in later life, and reduces risk for dementia."

The retirees involved in the study were largely sedentary individuals, at risk for dementia due to the loss of social and physical interactions. Unlike programs that promoted weekly exercise, Experience Corps developed social, cognitive and physical interactions, rather than just physical interactions. Additionally, the study subjects' connection



Retirees in Experience Corps, who worked with grade-school children, had improved cognitive function.

to students they were working with created extra incentive to participate actively.

The experiment studied eight volunteers for Experience Corps and nine control subjects, and used functional magnetic resonance imaging to track changes in brain function.

"This technique allows us to examine which brain regions are becoming 'active' while a person is doing a task," Erickson said.

"For example, if you were doing a memory test, we could see which brain regions you were using to do the task. Using this technique both before and after the older adults were involved

with Experience Corps for six months allowed us to see how it changed the pattern of brain activity."

"These results are promising in that they suggest that what was typically thought of as inevitable decline in old age might be reversible. The next steps will be to determine the extent to which these cognitive and brain deficits can be reversed and the types of interventions that are the most effective," Erickson said.

As it happens, this type of research is already underway.

"We are extending these findings from a small matched case-control study to a more definitive randomized controlled trial of 120 men and women nested within the larger Baltimore Experience Corps Trial," Carlson said. This study will run for a longer duration to see if prolonged work with Experience Corps might have a more pronounced effect.

This study was supported by The Hopkins Pepper Center and the larger randomized trial is being conducted in collaboration with the Greater Homewood Community Corporation and is supported by the National Institute on Aging, a Faculty Innovation grant from the Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, and the Neurobehavioral Research Unit at the Kennedy Krieger Institute.

# Low vitamin D decreases sex hormones, raises disease risk

By ALICE HUNG  
For the News-Letter

A Hopkins research team led by Erin Michos recently found conclusive evidence indicating the strong relationship between vitamin D deficiency, low estrogen level and increased risk of cardiovascular and bone diseases in males.

Vitamin D is a fat-soluble substance found naturally in foods such as fatty fish, eggs and milk. It can also be produced by the body through exposure to sunlight. Today, vitamin D can even be found in vitamin supplements.

This nutrient is essential in aiding the body's absorption of calcium, reducing inflammation and improving other immunity functions. Blood levels of vitamin D below 20 nanograms per milliliter are considered unhealthy.

Previous studies have shown that deficits in vitamin D and low levels of estrogen both increase risk of osteoporosis and heart diseases. Recent findings indicate the presence of a direct link between vitamin D concentrations and estrogen levels.

It has long been known that cholesterol levels in blood affect bone and arterial health. Interestingly, vitamin D, estrogen and testosterone are all produced from cholesterol as a precursor. This fact led scientists to investigate the direct

relationship between vitamin D and sex hormones.

In a subset of a study designed to determine the effect of vitamin D level on risk of diseases, blood samples from a group of men were analyzed. Both estrogen and testosterone concentrations were measured. These sex hormones can either be unattached, and thus free-circulating, or attached to a protein called sex hormone binding globulin (SHBG).

At first, low testosterone and estrogen levels seemed to be independent of vitamin D deficiency, although low sex hormone concentrations did point to increased rates of osteopenia — the early stage of osteoporosis — heart diseases and high blood pressure in men.

When estrogen to SHBG ratios were compared however, rates of heart and bone diseases both increased when both estrogen and vitamin D decreased. Every unit decrease of estrogen to SHBG ratios caused an 89 percent increase in bone disease in men deficient in vitamin D, and only a 64 percent increase in men with healthy levels of vitamin D.

Michos plans on extending the study towards women in her future research. She also mentions clinical trials testing whether or not vitamin D supplements can prevent deaths caused by various cardiovascular diseases, such as strokes and heart attacks.



Insufficient vitamin D can negatively affect mental, cardiovascular and bone health.

# Diseases in heart and brain linked

Alzheimer's and heart disease have similar accumulations of misfolded protein plaques

By SAM OHMER  
Staff Writer

Scientists at the Hopkins School of Medicine, working with colleagues in Canada and Italy, have recently uncovered a surprising biochemical link between Alzheimer's disease and heart failure.

The link seems to be tied to protein abnormalities — specifically, abnormal protein folding that leads to the aggregation of large masses of misfolded proteins that can interfere in both the brain's and the heart's normal functioning. Alzheimer's and heart failure are not linked by causation, but rather by parallel causes, and this link may help scientists to characterize and treat similar medical disorders in the future.

It is known that the brains of Alzheimer's sufferers, when examined post-mortem, display irregular protein tangles and plaques called tau tangles and beta amyloid plaques. These tangles or plaques are formed when misfolded proteins clump together, and such clumps can cause serious damage when they interact with, and get stuck in, brain tissues.

The scientific team credited with this latest discovery has found that, at least in the canine model they have studied, heart failure can sometimes be caused by the same scenario. Protein

plaques form in heart muscle and may ultimately play a role in heart failure. By surgically engineering animals that had malfunctioning hearts, the team was able to elicit a stress response from the heart muscles, a response in which protein plaques formed.

"In both cases (the brain and heart, respectively) it takes time for these plaques to build up and exert their toxic effect," said Giulio Agnelli of Hopkins' Heart and Vascular Institute and the National Institute for Cardiovascular Research at the University of Bologna in Italy. "It's a slow, chronic process in both cases. Due to these analogies, I started thinking that something similar to what's going on in Alzheimer's disease could also be occurring in the heart."

Previous research had found that a protein called desmin formed plaques in genetically engineered mice hearts. David March of Hopkins and his team found that desmin also begins to form toxic plaques in the hearts of dogs whose hearts do not beat regularly. The desmin plaques are thought to be analogues of amyloid plaques found in the brains of Alzheimer's patients.

Desmin plaques seem to aggregate and play a toxic role, perhaps exacerbating the original stress that had been inflicted on the heart itself. Interestingly, when the dogs' hearts underwent surgery, the toxic desmin plaques

began to dissipate, the hearts began pumping normally, and the irregular protein folding was no longer observed.

The irregular form of the desmin protein seems to arise as a result of high levels of stress inflicted upon the heart muscles — for example, when the heart beats irregularly or weakly. When the stress is relieved, so are the toxic and potentially lethal effects of the desmin plaques.

Though surgical engineering of malfunctioning hearts is very different from *in vivo* genetically malfunctioning ones, being able to treat and alleviate the adverse effects of desmin plaque formation may well prove invaluable in scientists' understanding of not only heart failure, but also of Alzheimer's disease.

March's team noticed one especially important feature of the malfunctioning desmin proteins in dogs' hearts: These proteins display only three different structural changes, but these changes (specifically, an atypical phosphorylation pattern) are large enough to cause the amyloid-like plaques to form within the heart cells.

The plaques form in muscle tissues that serve an organizational role within the heart, meaning that when they go awry, so do the other heart proteins that rely on the desmin scaffolding for proper positioning, placement and performance.

Understanding how the desmin works to exacerbate heart failure is an important step in combating the devastating effects of heart failure. Instead of just treating the symptoms of heart failure, scientists and doctors may now be able to move towards treating the actual biochemical cause of heart failure.

Indeed, the Hopkins team has already identified similar plaques within the hearts of human patients suffering from heart failure. By understanding desmin plaques in mice and in dogs, and their associated treatments, scientists may one day better understand Alzheimer's amyloid plaques and ways to treat them or address their toxic and damaging effects. This is great news for the millions of Americans and others around the world who suffer or die each year from these two diseases.

# Iron and zinc supplements alleviate malnutrition

By BARBARA HA  
Staff Writer

In developing countries such as Bangladesh, micronutrient deficiency, especially among children, presents a concerning health issue to both domestic and international health officials. In particular, many children lack sufficient supplies of iron and zinc in their diets. Iron is known to have significant effects in decreasing anemia and psychomotor activity, while zinc helps to both reduce child morbidity and mortality from diarrhea and pneumonia and to improve growth.

In an effort to efficiently deliver both of these supplements to the greatest number of children, health specialists and nutritionists have frequently distributed these two supplements together; however, these attempts have sometimes resulted in negative outcomes because of detrimental interactions between the two nutrients.

Recently, a group of researchers at the Hopkins Medical Institutions, in collaboration with the Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health and the International Center for Diarrhoeal Disease Research in Bangladesh, have carried out a study in a rural Bangladeshi population to further study the effectiveness of various iron and zinc supplement delivery methods to improve diarrhea and anemia among the children of the population.

"I was interested in the topic because, in international health,

there is often a lot of attention given to HIV/AIDS, which is definitely a serious issue, but I think we sometimes forget about the chronic issues of malnutrition which are harder to quantify and thus may get less time in the limelight," Stephanie Chang, a physician at the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality and a lead investigator in this study, said.

A randomized group of approximately 1,000 children aged six to 18 months were studied over a period of six months. They were each given one of five different intervention regimens containing a placebo, only iron, only zinc, iron and zinc combined or iron and zinc separately.

The data were collected by trained village health workers, or VHWs, who were supervised by four trained individuals with earlier research experience and at least

12 years of school. Survey methods and blood samples were drawn from the participants periodically throughout the study period.

As shown by this study, whether administered separately or together, these supplements are crucial in order for a child to maintain a healthy diet. The main results of this study had to do with the relationship between iron and zinc supplements and diarrhea.

Zinc alone did not show any strong correlation with diarrhea incidence, prevalence, or duration, but iron alone increased diarrhea prevalence. Combined zinc and iron reduced diarrhea, including bloody diarrhea, inci-

dence and prevalence when compared to iron alone.

In other words, iron alone was found to increase diarrhea, but these harmful effects were alleviated by adding zinc, either separately or combined. Other outcomes that were noted, particularly anemia, also showed improvement from only iron alone and also with a combination of iron and zinc.

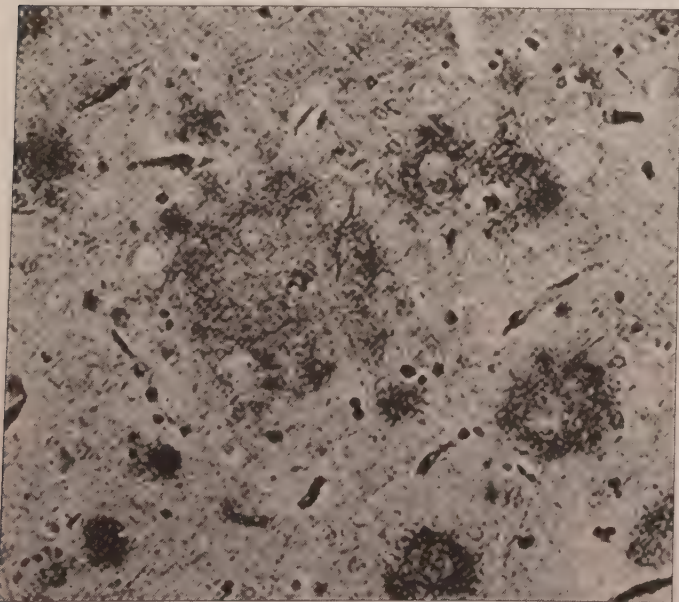
Because of the benefits and risks of iron and zinc supplementation, policy makers in developing countries have encountered increased difficulty in assigning the most cost-effective and safest regimens for their constituent populations.

For example, vomiting, a further cause of dehydration in addition to diarrhea, is a widely observed side effect of combined delivery of iron and zinc tablets.

Also, the correlation between diarrhea and iron and zinc supplementation, as in other studies, suffers from the possible influence of other confounding factors such as improved nutrition and health over time due to other causes, such as better food, shelter, sanitation or other living conditions.

"We need to look at both the benefits and harms of giving any intervention and to consider the context that the intervention will actually be used in order for research to be helpful," Chang said.

"It's important to consider how much these findings apply to other populations. Our study was conducted in a non-malarial population, non-HIV population, but with some baseline degree of malnutrition. When looking more closely at the data, there is some suggestion that a combined supplement may not work as well in stunted children (short for age) and this is an area for future research."



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Amyloid plaques accumulating in brain tissue contribute to Alzheimer's disease.



# Google Wave rocks the e-mail boat

As described by Lars Rasmussen, Google's software engineering manager, Google Wave is what e-mail would look like if it was invented today, since the version of e-mail that we currently use is over 40 years old.

Ever send an e-mail out to a few friends, and they "reply-all" about some of the points that you talked about, and then someone forgets to "reply-all" somewhere down the line, and that gets forwarded back to the group, and by the time you get to it, the subject line starts with "Re:Fwd:Re:Re:Fwd:" and the message itself has become a beastly creature that has sprouted arms and legs? Wave seeks to resolve that and then some.

**So what is Google Wave?**  
Google Wave is a real-time

platform for Web communication. It brings together e-mail, instant messaging and a splash of Google Docs. In a "wave," Google's version of an e-mail message, you can even embed things like videos, maps and polls. It's all the things you've felt that e-mail lacked and more, so much more that things can get a bit tangled.

**So why should I use yet another Web app?**

This is a question that many will ask, and they are right to do so. Google has put out a fairly consistent stream of various applications, including Gmail, Docs, Calendar, Reader and Maps to name a few of the more popular ones. At present, there are many

who are happy with the setup that they have going, and they will wonder, "Why fix something that is not broken?"

I see great potential in this product. Google will be releasing the bulk of the code in open-source. That means a company can have an internal Wave, where none of the data ever leaves the server closet, giving Wave an enterprise opportunity.

Google is also opening up the platform to having all manner of Applications and Extensions, in a similar way that Google has Gadgets for its homepage.

**What other cool features are there?**

When I say real-time, I mean it. Those that you 'share' a wave with can see you typing your messages in real time, even as you're making typos and edits. They can go in your wave and edit content, highlighting and bolding as they wish. Of course, you added them to your wave in the first place, so choose your friends wisely.

An interesting and useful feature called playback is built into Wave. It allows you to, well, 'play back' the conversation in real-time or sped up. This way if you're really confused as to where a certain reply comes in, you can just 'rewind' and see for yourself. This eliminates the need to add to the confusion by hitting 'reply-all' to ask who said what and when.

Attachments are a thing of the past. Drag-and-drop file sharing allows anyone to drop a file in and your file is shared. It's really that easy.

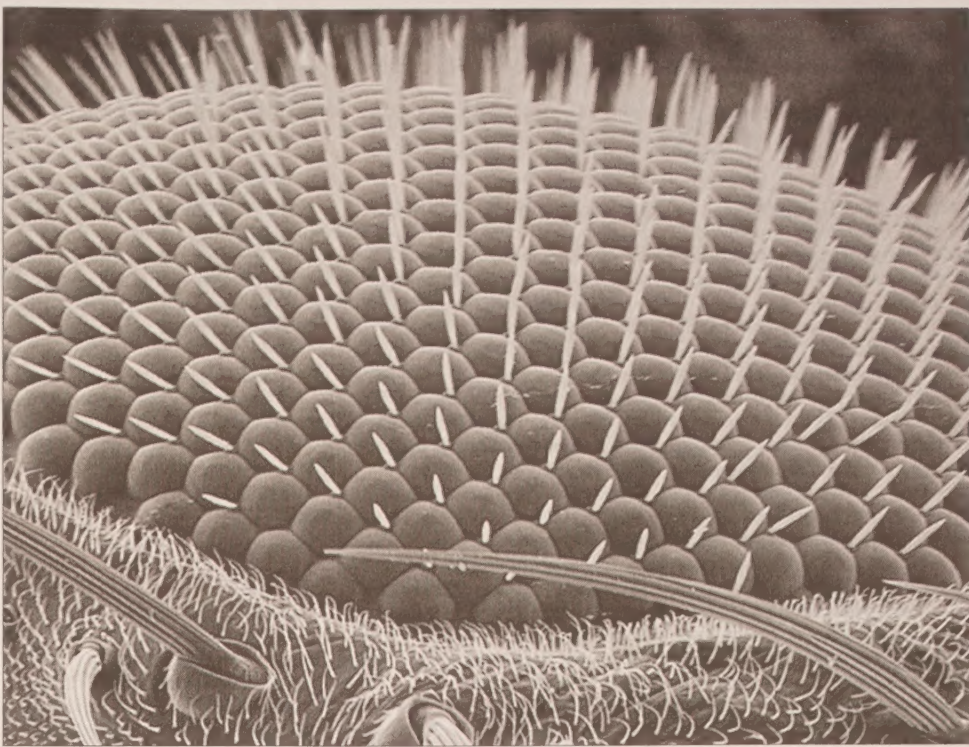
**So where do I sign up?**

Yes, Google Wave is ambitious, and yes it is coming. Unfortunately, it's also in a 'preview' stage. Google has given out over 100,000 invitations by the last count, and those users received invites to give out.

However, users invited by other users don't always receive further invites to keep handing down. So it's very much limited, and there are more than enough folks clamoring for a spot.

Check out <http://wave.google.com> to learn more and check out the videos that Google has posted about Wave. Wave has certainly pushed the boundaries of internet communication, and in the coming months expect to hear more about Google Wave. Is this the beginning of a new wave? Google would certainly like you to think so.

## Yufeng Guo Tech Talk



COURTESY OF WWW.EINSTEIN.YU.EDU  
Researchers modeled equations for robotic vision, used in flying robots and navigation systems, after the compound eyes of flies.

# Fly eyes used as models for robotic vision

By KATHERINE TAN  
Staff Writer

Sometimes you do not have to understand what you see; you just need to derive patterns from nature.

Russell Brinkworth and David O'Carroll, both researchers from the University of Adelaide, Australia, observed the brain cell activity for fly eyesight. Incorporating computation from the raw vision data, they created vision fields for miniature flying robots, such as battlefield drones, search-and-rescue robots, automobile navigation systems and other systems, where computational power is especially important.

By keeping the investigation to small creatures such as the fly, which has relatively few optic neurons, researchers have been able to work on a smaller scale. Then, using equations and algorithms which represent the movements of objects in the visual field, they were able to create larger scale models.

These models for motion detection are based on elements thought to be present in biological systems, showing that accurate detection of large-scale motion can be achieved using a low-resolution system based on relatively simple mathematical operations.

O'Carroll and other researchers have been studying the sight circuits of flies. In a research paper published in the Public Library of Science Computational Biology, O'Carroll and Brink-

worth described the techniques they used for the investigation, using a digital camera to capture images for use as stimuli.

A series of five equations was then used to run the data from the cameras. The researchers derived the equations based on the tricks used by fly circuits to handle changing levels of light intensity, space judgment and contrast and movement detection and adaptation.

These variables were integrated and processed into comprehensive movements. This algorithm emphasizes large-scale patterns of change, working a bit like video-compression systems that ignore areas that don't change in color, hence giving a clearer global picture of what is actually happening.

O'Carroll and Brinkworth then increased the resolution of the images, and analyzed them with a similar program which might function in a robot. They then compared the results to the inputs. Strikingly, they found out that the same pattern functioned in a range of natural lighting conditions.

However, the researchers do not know why the same algorithms, when put together in other contexts, still function the

same as they do for fly vision. As O'Carroll and Brinkworth wrote in their conclusion, the non-linear elements interacted to produce an estimate of angular velocity that was independent of the scene it was viewing.

Moreover, the performance of the system as a whole was greater than the simple addition of the individual components taken in isolation. These results baffled the researchers. Nevertheless, their findings still showed a strong correlation between the fly vision model and the computational principles.

This relatively cheap and simple model has opened paths to further research. "It's amazing work," said Sean Humbert, a University of Maryland aerospace engineer, who had used O'Carroll's previous algorithms to build tiny autonomous robots. If the strong correlations were true, millions of dollars otherwise spent on large scale modeling could be saved.

"That's one of the fascinating things here," O'Carroll said in an interview with Wired Science. "It doesn't necessarily lead us to a complete understanding of how the system works, but to an appreciation that nature got it right."

It doesn't necessarily lead us to a complete understanding . . . but to an appreciation that nature got it right.

— DAVID O'CARROLL, RESEARCHER

# Scientists develop method to destroy cancer with magnets

MICRODISCS, FROM B7

The researchers found that microdisc-treated cells had much higher concentrations of calcium than usual. Calcium plays a major role in many cell pathways and is known to be a key signaling molecule in apoptotic pathways.

Previous studies have shown that minor cell membrane disturbances can raise calcium levels. It is likely that the mechanical stimulus provided by the microdiscs is amplified as a chemical signal inside the cell, leading to apoptosis.

One key advancement in the team's research was that a relatively low frequency and short treatment time was enough to kill most cancer cells. The relative mildness of the treatment may help decrease side effects in vivo.

"Using the unique 'soft' magnetic material allows application of a low-frequency field . . . for only ten minutes, [which] was sufficient to achieve approximately 90 percent cancer cell destruction in vitro," Rozhkova said. "This is 10 to 100,000 times weaker magnetic field that it is used for superparamagnetic particles."

Although these findings offer a promising new way that nanotechnology can be used to treat cancer, more work needs to be done before clinical trials can begin.

## Briefs in Physics and Astronomy

### Scientists create an optical black hole using metamaterials

Two researchers in China have fabricated a black hole capable of absorbing light.

Black holes, theorized by Albert Einstein in his theory of general relativity, are areas in space with such high gravitational fields that they absorb everything near them — both particles and waves, such as electromagnetic radiation and matter.

While they are not capable of dragging matter toward their centers, the optical black holes created here are comprised of 60 concentric layers of metamaterials.

Metamaterials are materials that, due to their composition and the orientation of their molecules, can bend light around themselves and are used in cloaking devices.

Here the layers prevent microwave radiation, a form of electromagnetic radiation, from escaping. The black hole can also absorb radiation at other frequencies.

One potential application of this new technology is in solar energy panels, which could absorb as much light from the sun as possible. The more light absorbed by solar panels, the more can be converted into usable electricity.



COURTESY OF WWW.NASA.GOV  
Two black holes are moving toward each other in the center of galaxy NGC6240.

### NASA discovers black hole collision from 400 million years ago

What happens when two black holes collide? You get an even bigger black hole. The galaxy NGC6240 was known to be the product of the collision of two older galaxies, but the nature of their center was previously unknown. The stars in this "starburst galaxy" are still evolving at an extremely rapid rate.

Past studies have found that the center was a source of X-rays, but a number of different images were not conclusive in deter-

mining their exact cause. A new image from NASA's Chandra X-Ray Observatory, however, has shown that there are two distinct sources of the radiation.

The image also found high-energy photons and fluorescent iron atoms in the gas at the center which are indicative of a black hole.

Current measurements indicate that the two black holes are now about 3,000 light years apart, but the collision has probably already happened because of the distance between this galaxy and Earth and the time it takes for this information to be observed on Earth. Any observation of the merger will be made in the next few hundred million years.

This binary black hole system proves the theory that black holes

merge within galaxies to form ever-larger black holes.

### CERN's Large Hadron Collider sets world record

The Large Hadron Collider at CERN, the European Organization for Nuclear Research, successfully collided two beams of protons for the first time last Monday, becoming the world's highest energy particle accelerator.

After numerous setbacks and delays, beams were run in each of the rings, allowing for synchronization of the beams and therefore collisions. At an energy of  $1.18 \times 10^{12}$  electron volts, the LHC beat the record held previously by the U.S. Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory's Tevatron collider, at  $0.98 \times 10^{12}$  electron volts.

The beams can cross at two points along the ring. At each collision point, a shower of particles is created. When protons hit at such high energies, they create many particles with a greater total mass than that of the two protons due to Einstein's famous mass-energy equivalency ( $E = mc^2$ ). Observing and classification of these particles can lead to new discoveries as to what particles comprise protons and neutrons, in addition to their properties.

Eventually, the LHC will use higher energy beams with hevi-

er elements (such as lead), allowing for more diverse particles to be created. The LHC should be running at its peak by Christmas, having provided adequate data for calibration.

### Findings from lunar collision mission report presence of water

After much speculation and skepticism, scientists have obtained conclusive evidence that the moon contains water.

Data from NASA's Lunar Crater Observation and Sensing Satellite (LCROSS) mission in October has now provided evidence of water in the surface of the moon. Last month, NASA shot a rocket into the Cabeus crater, hoping that water could be found in the aftermath of the collision.

No debris plume was initially seen, but after extensive study, traces of vapor were observed. The surface at the impact site had not been disturbed for billions of years before this mission.

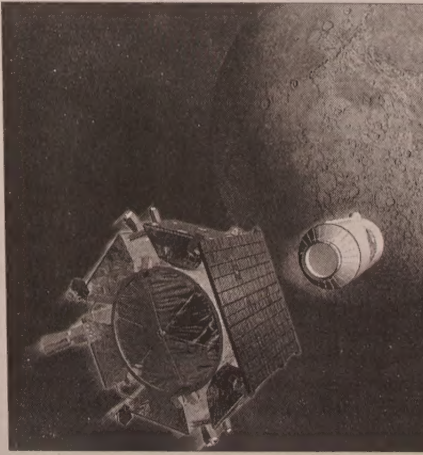
A two-part

plume was in fact created — a high angle plume containing dust and water vapor, and a lower angle plume containing more massive debris. When the vapor was hit by sunlight, some molecules were broken into hydroxyl, a pair of oxygen and hydrogen atoms, and hydrogen ions.

Using spectrometry, which uses light to measure the chemical composition of a sample, scientists compared the signature for hydroxyl to the impact data.

After ruling out any effects from the rocket itself and any combination of other molecular traces, the data pointed to water vapor. Lunar water could be useful in future manned missions not only as drinking water, but it could also be converted to breathable oxygen or rocket fuel.

— All briefs by Dan Cadel



COURTESY OF WWW.ENGINEERING.PURDUE.EDU  
The LCROSS mission has found water vapor on the moon.



# Horsing around with the equestrian team

HORSES, FROM A1

Though Mimi Gu had ridden with friends in high school, she never had any formal experience before joining the club.

"It's really refreshing to get off campus and sort of be away from everything," the freshman said. "The farm is really pretty and the horses are so nice."

Beginners are guided by those with more experience, including sophomore Maxi Gumprecht, an award-winning rider and former News-Letter Athlete of the Week. Beginners are monitored, but more experienced riders like Gumprecht are allowed to go out on their own.

Safety has been a priority for both the group members and Hopkins administrators. Though they were ultimately approved by the Student Government Association, there were some concerns.

"We are currently having conversations with various University risk and legal officers on the operations of this organization. There are still a number of questions that need to be addressed," Director of Student Involvement Jason Heiserman said.

Riders are required to sign a

how to put on the tack and how to clean up after it."

The horses are boarded in a privately owned farm out in Parkton, Md. Riders pile into ZipCars for the 30-minute drive. The distance has been a downside for Jabbour, but she appreciated that the facilities have covered arenas, making it easier to practice through the winter as they prepare to hopefully begin competing as a team.

Though Director of Athletics and Recreation Tom Calder had not been approached about creating a competitive equestrian team, he questioned whether Hopkins could provide financial support.

"Based on the state of the current US economy and how it has affected the University, the introduction of any new program or team in athletics or recreation is going to be looked at over the next several years with start up and annual costs as two of the major considerations," he said.

But if things work out, the team would likely compete in the Intercollegiate Horse Show Association (IHSA). According to Gumprecht, their events would include both flatwork and jumping, but only on the hunt seat style saddle.

Stasinopolous said she would welcome the opportunity to compete.

"I don't know if I'm good enough, but it would be a lot of fun. It's a good way to get better, improve your technique and look better when you are riding," she said.

Gu also said she would consider competing, though she too had questioned her skill level. "They assured us that there are competitions for all



COURTESY OF TOTALPROSPORTS.COM  
Equestrian is a sport that requires patience and poise.

series of waivers removing Hopkins from liability. "People have to agree to the fact that they are taking a risk," Jabbour said.

"They really have taken a lot of precautions," Stasinopolous said. "There's always someone supervising . . . If a horse isn't paying attention, they will jump on and show them who's boss."

The cost of a riding session is \$25. Gu, who has gone riding twice this semester, said the cost was "kind of pricey."

Sophomore Marilyn Stasinopolous has only made it out to the barn once this semester, but for her it was more of an issue of finding the time than financial difficulties.

"The price is reasonable. For people who don't have a lot of experience with riding, the cost can seem like a lot, but it's pretty inexpensive," she said.

Riders can also work in the barn for three hours to pay for one hour of riding. Stasinopolous felt this was a good opportunity for newer riders.

"You get more accustomed to being around the horses so when you're riding you are not as nervous," she said.

Gu enjoyed learning more about the care and keeping of horses. "They teach you a lot about how to care for the horse. It's not just about getting on and riding. You walk the horse, learn

# Football continues magical run with 31-29 win

By CECILIA FURLONG  
Staff Writer

A week after shocking undefeated Hampden-Sydney 23-7 on the road for the program's first NCAA tournament win, the Jays did just enough to squeeze by Thomas More, winning 31-29 courtesy of a 43 yard field goal from junior Alex Lachman as time expired.

The Jays handed the previously undefeated Saints, from Crestview Hills, Kentucky, their first loss of the season, while the Jays continue their magical run in the Stag Bowl.

"The Hampden-Sydney win was the first time a Hopkins football team made it out of the first round," Junior Alex Lachman stated.

"The momentum from the Hampden-Sydney game definitely carried over to the Thomas More game. We were very happy winning the first round game, but we weren't satisfied with just one win. We knew we were going to play a very good team in Thomas More, but everyone was really excited for the chance to go to Kentucky and play them."

On the road for the second straight week, the Jays came out firing from the beginning, torching the Saints for 21 points in the first half.

Sophomore backup quarterback Tyler Porco put the Jays on the board first as he executed a play-action fake, connecting with Junior Dan Crowley for a 63-yard touchdown pass. The Saints would respond later in the quarter after picking off sophomore quarterback Hewitt Tomlin's pass, bringing the return into the Jays red zone. The Jays defense, however, would hold the Saints to only a field goal on the drive, preserving the lead at 7-3 going into the second quarter.

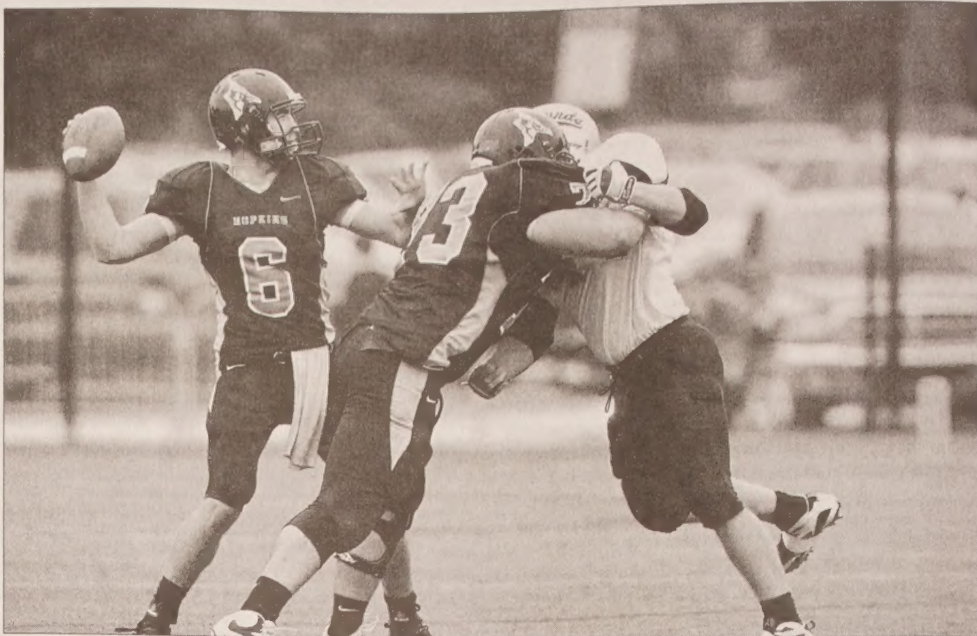
Midway through the second, the Jays forced a Thomas More turnover, with senior Colin Wixted recovering the ball at the Saints two-yard line. Tomlin found junior tight end Brian Hopkins in the end zone on the next play, giving the Jays a 14-3 lead.

The Jays broke up Thomas More's following possession, as senior Devin Hewlett came up with Hopkins second straight interception. Starting at their own 19-yard line, senior running back Andrew Kase carried the ball 36 yards on two plays to bring the Jays within the Saints half. Following four completions by Tomlin, Kase carried the ball one yard for his 50th career touchdown and a dominating 21-3 halftime lead over the unbeaten Saints.

"Our coaches emphasize coming out strong," Tomlin said. "We planned to come out big on this team because undefeated teams aren't used to being down and we wanted to send them a big message."

The second half proved to be another story, however, as the Saints grabbed all the momentum. With two touchdowns in less than three minutes midway through the third, the Saints put themselves back in the game, cutting the deficit to 21-17.

The Jays, however, would respond on the next play as Tomlin's 28-yard fourth down conversion to junior D.J. Hartigan would set up Kase's second rushing touchdown of the game, giving the Jays back their double digit lead at 28-17 entering the fourth.



FILE PHOTO

Sophomore quarterback Hewitt Tomlin looks around the field for an open teammate, ready to make a pass.

"We have been considered the underdog a lot this season," Lachman said. "I think the underdog title motivates us even more because we want to prove to everyone how good we really are. The team has adopted the slogan of "shock the world" for the playoffs."

The Jays would need this mental toughness, as the Saints scored two unanswered touchdowns, taking their first lead of the game at 29-28 with less than a minute left in regulation. The Saints two attempts at two point conversions failed, leaving the door open for an improbable finish from the Jays.

Getting the ball with 51 seconds on the clock at their own 30-yard line, Tomlin directed the Jays down the field, reaching Thomas More's 40-yard line with five seconds left on the clock. Head coach Jim Margraff elected to run one more play, and Tomlin hit Tucker Michels for a nine-yard out, leaving only one second on the clock.

"Coach Margraff made a crucial decision in running another play with five seconds left," Lachman said. "Tucker made a great

catch and was able to step out of bounds with 1 second left. During the last few seconds I knew I was going to have a chance to attempt a long field goal. I was extremely calm while I was jogging out onto the field. Looking back on it, I believe that I have never been more calm attempting a kick. As soon as I kicked it, I knew it was good."

As Lachman's 43-yard field goal soared through the uprights, sealing the game for Hopkins 31-29, the Jays began to celebrate another improbable victory, as they stunned their second undefeated opponent in as many weeks.

"Our team actually enjoys playing on the road," Tomlin said. "We like the idea of being able to beat opposing teams in their house. When teams are undefeated it's a good feeling to be able to be their first loss and we enjoy having those big challenges, it makes the win that much better."

The Jays will look to continue their success on the road as they travel to Dover, Delaware this weekend for a semifinal game against host and third-ranked Wesley.

"The team is really excited for

the chance to play a great team like Wesley," Lachman said. "We know that we are going to have to play a very good game to beat them. I think the team needs to maintain the "shock the world" mindset. We have to go to Wesley just as confident as we did against Hampden-Sydney and Thomas More."

Kickoff is set for 12 p.m. as the Jays look to knock off an undefeated team for a third straight week. A win would put the Jays in the national semi-finals, and a win in that game would get Hopkins on ESPN2.

## ECAC Lambert D-III Football Poll

1. Wesley
2. Albright
3. Delaware Valley
4. Johns Hopkins
5. Thomas More
6. Montclair State
7. Washington & Jeff.

# Water Polo goes 1-2 at Eastern Championship

By SHANT KESKINYAN  
Staff Writer

The 20th-ranked Hopkins men's water polo team headed to Cambridge, Mass. two weekends ago to play in the 2009 Water Polo Eastern Championship at MIT. The team took the first game

period. However, Hopkins was able to counter the score yet again, as Kyle Gertridge scored on a man-advantage at 2:19, and Whittam was able to put another goal in net with 1:40 left in the period. With 67 seconds left in the third period, Fordham was able to score again, mak-

score at the end of the first overtime period, making the score 11-10 heading into sudden death period. The second overtime period also saw another goal by Fordham to even the score at 11-11. With 1:07 left on the clock, Gertridge knocked in game-winning shot for the Blue Jays.

The Blue Jays advanced to the championship bracket for the first time in school history after the win over Fordham. In an unfortunate, yet exciting game, the men lost to Bucknell 10-9 in the third place game.

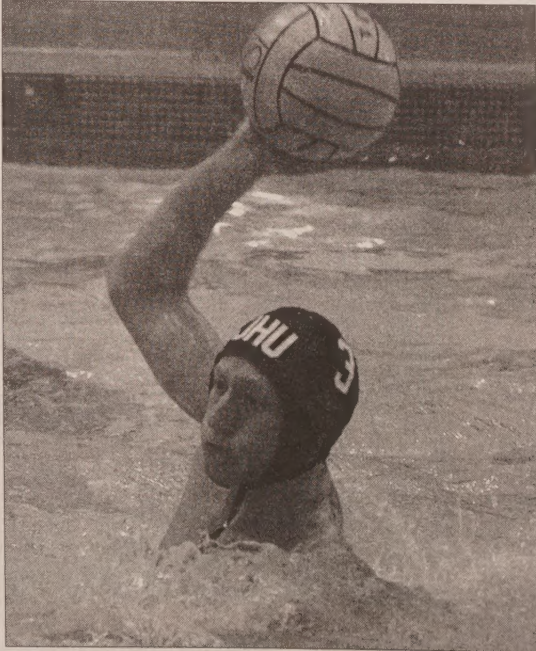
"We can go into the locker-room at the end of the season with our heads held high," Strickland said.

Maurer agreed with Strickland and also added, "Our season was amazing and we went further than any other Hopkins water polo team in school history," Maurer said, "And also farther than any Division III team in history. To be able to say that about this group of guys only seems fitting".

"The scene during the overtime period was absolutely surreal. Brown and Bucknell had the next game and instead of warming up you could see the two squads watching a contest that nobody wanted to see end.

Senior Kyle Gertridge used an old fashion T-shot to put the game away with 1:20 left in the sudden-death period. Gertridge would go on to make first team All East for his performance over the weekend. Freshman Alex Whittam had four goals in the game as he was named Southern Rookie of the Year at the Tournament banquet. The win put the Jays in the championship bracket for the first time in the school's history," Bresnahan said.

The Water Polo team finished with a record of 17-17.



FILE PHOTO

Freshman defender Kielan Crow gets ready to make a pass.

# M. soccer finishes season with overtime loss

M. SOCCER, FROM B12

few times the Falcons tried putting together an attack, they were quickly dealt with by a defense that was playing in top form.

On another offensive drive, the Jays put enough pressure on their opponents to force an own goal in the 22nd minute. The score now 2-0 led to some high hopes of making it into the next round of the tournament.

Going into halftime, it appeared as though the Jays were going to continue controlling the game, but the defending national champions thought otherwise.

Early in the second half, the Falcons established themselves as a threat with a score in the 47th minute. Messiah's Joshua Wood headed a corner kick from teammate Geoff Pezon into the corner of the net, just out of senior goalie Ravi Gill's reach. The Messiah fans erupted with fiery cheers, breaking their cold si-

lence from before.

The momentum shifted in the second half. The Jays began playing very defensively, not attacking as they did in the first half. In the 77th minute, the Falcons scored on a moment of confusion. The ball went in on a throw-in and the Blue Jays claimed that it was not touched by anyone from either team, therefore not making the ball in play.

However, the referee ruled the play an own goal, saying that one of the Hopkins players touched the ball to validate the goal. Gill ran halfway up the field to contest the call but the official ended up giving him a yellow card.

The 2-2 score sent the game into golden goal overtime. Tensions were high as the game was so evenly matched throughout regulation time. In the 94th minute, the game seemed to be determined when junior Evan Kleinberg took a shot at the end of a break away that bounced

off and over the sliding, outstretched goalie. The ball was on its way over the goal line but at the last possible second, a Messiah defender cleared it to safety.

In the second overtime, a Messiah attacker was fouled just outside the box in the 106th minute. Then, in dramatic fashion, Messiah's Nick Thompson swerved his shot around the wall and into the back of the net to send the Falcons into the next round of the NCAA Tournament.

After a disappointing season-ending loss, the Jays look forward to next season in hopes of advancing further in the post-season.

"We have a solid group of returners. Everyone seems motivated to learn from the mistakes we've made," sophomore Drew Holland said.

"We won't be satisfied unless we win a national championship."



SPORTS

ATHLETE OF THE WEEK  
ALEX LACHMAN- FOOTBALL

Lachman kicks his way into Hopkins history

By MARY DOMAN  
Staff Writer

Junior Alex Lachman is the placekicker for the Hopkins football team. What exactly does this mean? He is one of those who are “at times ostracized by other players due to the perceived non-physical and limited nature of their duties, as well as the fact they often are allowed to leave practice before the rest of the team.” Thank you Wikipedia.

Poor Alex. Not only is his athletic reputation questioned, but he also lives at WaWa.

Luckily Lachman has confirmed that his athletic abilities surpass any “non-physical and limited” stereotypes that befall his position.

Proof that Alex Lachman is a contributing athlete to the Hopkins football team could be seen this past weekend, when he kicked the game-winning field goal that took the Jays the furthest they’ve been in program history, to the third round of the NCAA playoffs.

The kick happened on Saturday, in Crestview Hills, Kentucky. The score: Blue Jays 28, Thomas More (then undefeated) 29. With one second left on the clock, coach Jim Margraff turned to Lachman and said, “Kick it.”

“I was weirdly calm,” Lachman said. “More calm than I’ve ever been for a any kick before.”

“Even though it was a 43 yard field goal, we had confidence in him,” said Junior Max Islinger, who has been the holder for nearly every Lachman field goal and extra point.

Islinger held the ball, Lachman kicked it, and they both watched it head toward the goal post. Before the ball even went through the uprights, Lachman said he knew it was good.



FILE PHOTO

Junior Alex Lachman focuses in on the ball that he is about to send downfield.

He sprinted to his teammates, who piled on top of him. “Everyone was going nuts,” he said. “They crushed me.”

The Final Score: Hopkins 31, Thomas More 29.

“It was definitely the biggest play of the season,” Islinger said.

Was luck on Lachman’s side? Or was it skill? Lachman sure does have plenty of superstitions. For example, he always ties his left cleat before his right. He only shaves on Thursdays. He doesn’t tuck in his jersey until the game starts, and he hasn’t gotten a haircut all season.

On the other hand, he is talented. After a childhood soccer career, Lachman took his kicking skills to the football field, which he much preferred because he “didn’t like all that running.” He’s been a kicker since he started, and claims he wouldn’t want to play any position. And though Lachman is drawn to the physical aspects of his position — little running, little practice, and lots of kicking — he doesn’t quite fit the personality stereotype.

“There are some sayings about kickers, like, ‘Kickers

don’t speak unless spoken to,’ or ‘Know your role.’ Kickers are supposed to be quiet, in the corner. But I talk a lot and joke around. I make my presence known,” he said.

Lachman’s presence is so intense that it even scares himself sometimes. Like the other month, when Lachman punched his reflection in a mirror after locking himself out of his room. Though he was taken to the emergency room for his bloody injury, luckily his golden foot was still in tact. No harm (to the team) done.

But now all he has is a scar and smile to show when he tells the story. “It was pretty funny,” he said.

Lachman takes pretty much everything in his life with a light attitude. Like football practice. “I don’t really do anything at practice,” he admits. “I stretch, and then I’m done. I kick before practice and occasionally on Thursday. I do about eight minutes of practice per practice.” Only eight minutes? Like the Wikipedia entry says, this is where kickers get their bad rep. But Lachman points out that there’s just not much to practice when you’re a kicker. “There’s only so much you can do.

W. soccer ends dream season with 3-1 defeat

W. SOCCER, FROM B12  
the final whistle.”

Messiah will compete in the Final Four in San Antonio, Texas, this weekend. But Weil considers his team to have had “a great run in the NCAA tournament with dominating victories against Cabrini, Eastern and Middlebury. We played some of our best soccer of the year in those games.”

The accolades this team will enjoy have just begun. Five players were named to All-Centennial Conference teams. Jessica Hnatiuk, a powerful junior defender, led the way as Centennial Conference Player of the Year. Also receiving first team all-conference selection were junior defender, Jenn Paulucci and senior goalkeeper Karen Guskowski. Including the NCAA post season, Hopkins only allowed eleven goals and had sixteen shutouts.

Last year, Guskowski was named to the all-conference second team. This was the third time for Paulucci to receive first team honors and she also appointed to the Academic Honor Roll. Joining Jenn on the Academic Honor Roll are Erin Stafford, Sarah Geiszl,

Pam Kopfensteiner and Kristen Redsun.

Stafford was also named as an honorable mention, while Erica Suter, was named to the second team all-conference.

Last week, Paulucci was also named to the First Team Academic All-American team, by ESPN the Magazine.

Many players ended Hopkins careers among the leader boards for many statistical records and some players are chasing those records and others in their remaining seasons.

Weil has coached the women’s team for 18 years and his career winning percentage is over .700. The 2009 seniors gave him three of his most victorious seasons and Weil took the time to thank them, saying, “they helped us become a perennial top team, one of the best programs in the nation.”

There’s little rest for a program so inclined to winning. Weil looks forward to “the addition of some talented incoming freshmen.” With a little luck as to avoid serious injuries, Weil is optimistic that next year’s team has potential to be even better than this year’s.



ANGELI BUENO/PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR

Freshman midfielder Laura Moody surveys the field as she decides her next move.

W. hoops finishes second at Durgala Tourament

By TRISTAN MOHABIR  
Staff Writer

The Hopkins women’s basketball team turned in a solid performance at the Mike Durgala Memorial Tournament, going 1-1 and losing a tight game in the tournament final.

The Blue Jays rolled past Wheaton on Nov. 21, winning 71-37, but came up just short in their next game against Mary Washington, falling 54-49. Junior forward Lindsay Burton had a stellar tournament and was named to the all-tournament team.

To open the tournament, Hopkins trounced Wheaton, winning by an incredible 34-point margin. Trailing 10-9 after a slow start, the Jays got the spark they needed after a steal by senior guard Britni Lonesome set up a jumper by junior forward Siobhan Callanan that would give Hopkins the lead for good. The bucket started a 24-5 Hopkins run to end the half, with the Jays leading 33-15 heading into the locker room.

Six different Hopkins players contributed baskets during the run, led by 12 points from Lindsay Burton. To cap the run, sophomore guard Chantel Mattiola collected her own miss and put in a layup with five seconds left on the clock, giving the Jays an 18-point lead.

The second half saw continued Hopkins domination, as the lead ballooned to 33 points in just six minutes. Senior guard Anastasia Wynn intercepted a pass and went coast-to-coast, laying the ball in to ignite a 17-2 Jays run that sealed the victory. Again, the run was a team effort, with six different players scoring. Hopkins would lead by as many as 41 points in the game before coming away with the 71-37 victory to advance to the tournament final.

Burton put on an impressive display, leading all scorers with 22

points on 11-of-13 shooting, and also hauled in 10 rebounds to record a double-double in her



WILL SHEPHERDSON/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Anastasia Wynn pulls up for a jump shot.

first game of the season. She also had four steals and two assists. Wynn was Hopkins’ second-leading scorer, adding 12 points. Jeana Trimboli, who scored 10 points for the visiting Lyons, was the only Wheaton player to reach double digits, a testament to the quality of the Hopkins defense. The Jays also dominated the boards, out-rebounding the Lyons 42-28 while holding them to 32 percent shooting from the floor. Wheaton committed an embarrassing 29 turnovers, which led to 32 Hopkins points.



WILL SHEPHERDSON/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Women’s basketball won a decisive victory over Wheaton.

The trip to nowhere: where XC meets Nationals

X. COUNTRY, FROM B12

appropriate at a swim meet or beach volleyball tournament. The noise level was incredible, with each team trying to out-cheer the others, even before the race began. As race time approached, fans got rowdier and louder, all of us just as anxious for the race to begin as our runners were.

The girls race was first, at 11 a.m.. When the gun sounded, people jostled to get a better look. The Jays got out to a good start. As soon as the runners passed, chaos ensued. We split up, heading to various parts of the course. Some of us ran through the woods, weaving our way around the trees and the mascot, whose giant head kept throwing the person inside off balance. We made it just in time to see our first two girls, Mira Patel and Cecilia Furlong, run by, with Laura Paulsen close behind. As soon as our girls had all passed, we sprinted through the mud to the finish line, excited to see the final results.

We cheered our girls in, one by one. Paulsen, who had fought strongly in the final mile despite having just come off an illness, was the first to cross the finish line, taking 37th place with a time of 23:09.1, with Patel closely behind in 47th.

Furlong crossed the line in 57th with a time of 23:30.8. Freshman Liz Provost, competing in her first NCAA Nationals, took 65th with 23:37.8 and senior Nadia McMillan rounded out the top five in 24:02.9 (105th). Senior Mary O’Grady (24:28.4; 144th) and junior Christina Valerio (25:18.7; 195th) finished closely after. The team took seventh place, despite the injuries and illness that plagued the later part of their season. The University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire, St. Lawrence University and Calvin University took first, second and



COURTESY OF HANNAH JANNARONE

Members of the Cross Country team pose in their body paint and bare chests.

third respectively.

The next race of the day was the men’s championship race. Junior Steve Tobochnik earned his chance to compete a week earlier with his 20th place finish at the Midwest Regional Meet. Our team split up again, making sure that all the tough parts of the muddy course were covered. We cheered Tobochnik on as he raced for a 133rd place finish, with a time of 26:57.4.

After congratulating our teammates and taking pictures on top of the giant NCAA logo painted on the grass, we finally sought refuge from the cold weather back on the bus.

As I settled in for the six hour ride home, I looked around at my teammates, many still covered in paint and mud. I suddenly realized how proud I was to be part of team that supported its runners so much that its members would spend most of the weekend traveling just to cheer their fellows on.

Looking around, I was excited for next year’s Nationals, and the new tradition we had started.

NCAA Women’s  
Cross Country Results

- |                    |         |
|--------------------|---------|
| 1) Wis.-Eau Claire | 171 pts |
| 2) St. Lawrence    | 180 pts |
| 3) Calvin          | 195 pts |
| 4) Middlebury      | 245 pts |
| 5) MIT             | 255 pts |
| 6) Whitworth       | 291 pts |
| 7) Johns Hopkins   | 306 pts |
| 8) Williams        | 309 pts |
| 9) Geneseo St.     | 320 pts |
| 10) Washington U.  | 334 pts |



# SPORTS

## Did You Know?

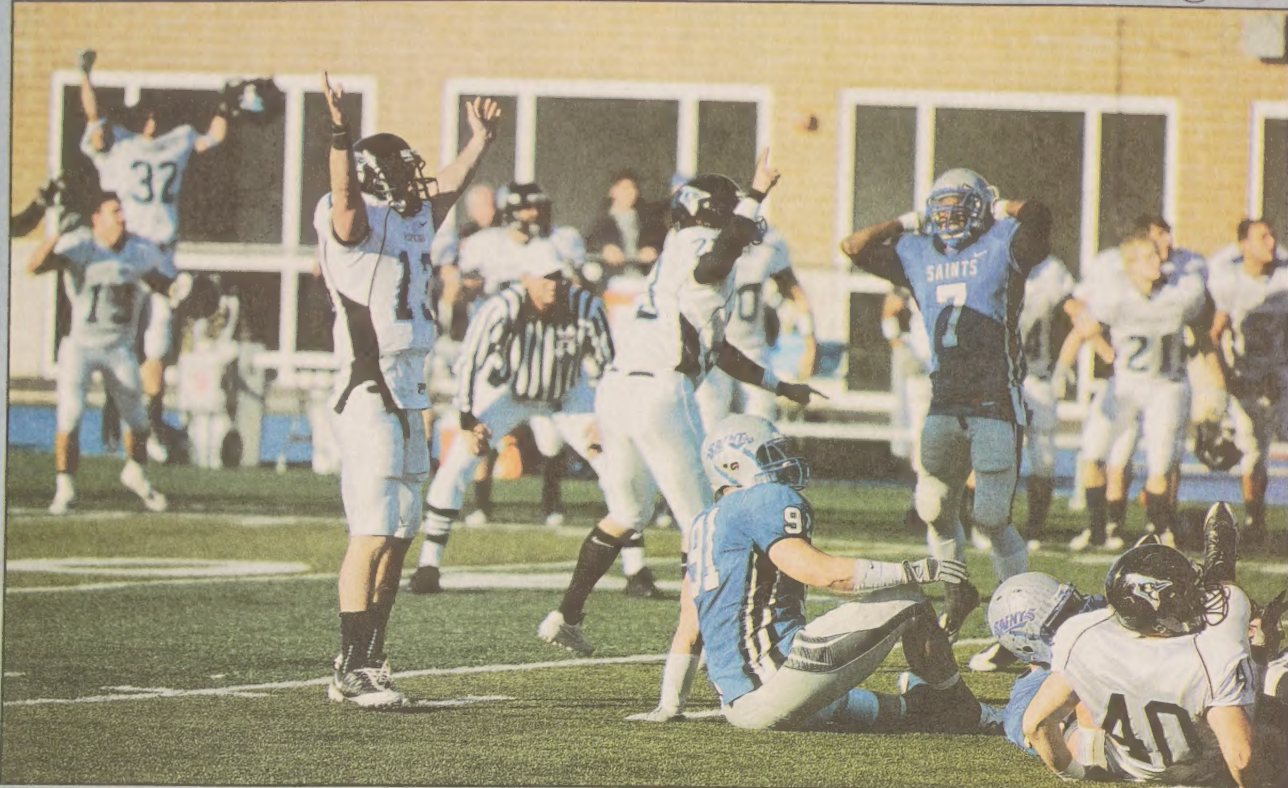
Usain Bolt, the world's fastest human, has adopted the world's fastest animal. Bolt formally adopted a three-month-old cheetah cub on Monday as part of an effort to help protect Kenya's endangered species. Bolt fittingly decided to nickname the cub, who will be kept in an animal orphanage in Kenya, "Lightning Bolt."

## HOME CALENDAR

**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 3**  
W. Basketball vs. Swarthmore, 7 p.m.

**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 9**  
Wrestling vs. Gettysburg, 5 p.m.

## Football stuns Thomas More on last second field goal



Down 29-28 with 50 seconds remaining, the Jays needed to score to keep their magical playoff run alive. Facing Thomas More College of Kentucky, the second unbeaten opponent Hopkins faced in the playoffs, the Jays held the lead for most of the game, until a late score put the Saints ahead. But sophomore quarterback Hewitt Tomlin led a brilliant final minute drive, capped by Alex Lachman's 43 yard game-winning field goal. See page B10.

COURTESY OF JAY VANRENSSELAER

## Cross Country places seventh at Nationals

By KAT BASELICE  
Sports Editor

Cross Country meets are not known for drawing huge crowds. Spending the better part of your Saturday morning watching a 20-plus minute race is rarely on the top of anyone's to-do list.

However, when the girls Cross Country team and individual qualifier Steve Tobochnik earned a chance to compete at this year's NCAA Division III National Championships, my teammates and I decided that was exactly what we wanted to do with our weekend.

After selling t-shirts to cover the costs of a rather small bus, we packed our bags and war paint and headed out to the middle of nowhere (Berea, Ohio). Six hours, three fast food stops, and a game of Disney Scene-It later, we arrived at our hotel. Wasting no time, we began making posters and strat-

egizing the best way to cheer our teammates on the following day.

The next morning, we dressed to face the chilly morning: short shorts, sports bras for the girls (and bare chests for the boys), along with plenty of body paint. As we drove up to the course, it became clear that this was not your typical Cross Country meet. In my seven years of running, I have never seen such a large and enthusiastic crowd.

I had heard rumors that Nationals were crazy and that the fans were just as competitive as the runners they were supporting.

However, nothing prepared me for what I encountered that day. An entire team had dressed as Spartans, running around making threatening gestures with their tin foil swords at any group of fans.

Most fans sported clothing that would have been more

**We dressed to face the chilly morning: short shorts, sports bras and ... body paint.**

— Kat Baselice

SEE X. COUNTRY, PAGE B11

## M. basketball goes 2-1 at Pride of Md.

By ERIC GOODMAN  
Sports Editor

The Hopkins men's basketball team opened its season with two wins at the Provident Pride of Maryland Tournament two weekends ago.

The Jays started the first round matchup against nearby Stevenson University. A balanced attack led by 14 points and 11 rebounds by senior center Andrew Farber-Miller and 10 points and 10 rebounds from senior co-captain Pat O'Connell helped Hopkins to a 75-53 victory.

Hopkins fell in its second game to Hood College 65-62. The Blazers jumped out to an early 10-0 lead and never looked back. The Jays managed to make the game close at the end, but a three point jumper by O'Connell at the buzzer was no good.

The Jays bounced back in their third game in three days, defeating Salisbury 58-53. Sophomore Danny Gergen had a career high 15 points, and Hopkins hit its last four free throws to seal the victory.

O'Connell was awarded with all-tournament honors.



FILE PHOTO  
Mike Henrici and the Jays played solid basketball as Hopkins won two games.

## W. soccer bows out of NCAA's in Elite Eight

By CHIP HARSH  
Staff Writer

The Women's Soccer team advanced to the Elite Eight of the NCAA tournament before being defeated by Messiah College, the number one-ranked team in Division III.

The final defeat ended an eight game winning streak that included a Centennial Conference Championship and three NCAA victories for a final record of 19-4-0 — the most successful season in Blue Jay women's soccer history under Coach Leo Weil.

"It's a group I'm very proud of for many reasons," Weil said about his team.

Hopkins hosted the first two

a powerful Messiah team. The Falcons would have to beat the Blue Jays on Homewood Field, and they prevailed, winning the Battle of the Birds, 4-1.

"We played arguably the most difficult schedule of any Division III women's soccer team this year," Weil said.

Weil also pointed out that all of the final four participants were on his 2009 schedule, and that the Jays defeated two of them (Wash U. in St. Louis and Lynchburg) in the first week of the season.

Sophomore Erica Suter scored the winning goal that finished Middlebury's season, which came in the second minute of the Saturday afternoon game. Sarah

Falcons stopped every Jay offensive. Zazzali and Suter each had three shots.

Messiah's Amanda Naeher and Erin Hench combined for 14 shots and all three goals.

Weil said about the tough final loss, "The first half of the Messiah game was disappointing because ... we didn't play our game. I thought the second half was much more indicative of how we like to play."

Coach Weil was very proud that his team was able to persevere and that they fought "hard right up until

SEE W. SOCCER, PAGE B11



FILE PHOTO

Sophomore midfielder Colleen Quinlan helped Hopkins reach the NCAA Elite Eight.

rounds of the NCAA tournament; and after two decisive victories, Hopkins hosted the next two rounds of the tournament. On the first day, the Blue Jays faced Middlebury and Messiah faced Otterbein.

The four teams combined for seven losses and 73 wins entering the sectional tournament and Weil's team was prepared to face their strongest competition of the year. Still undefeated Messiah beat Otterbein in double overtime, followed by a 1-0 Blue Jay victory over Middlebury.

Sunday was Hopkins' first ever appearance in the NCAA Elite eight, but it would come against

Roeder had the assist. The next 88 minutes and 30 seconds were defined by the phenomenal defense and goalkeeping consistent with the rest of the season — allowing only three shots.

The relentlessness offense that got Hopkins to the Elite Eight was also exemplified against Middlebury, as the girls put up 14 shots.

Sunday's match-up, in contrast to Saturday's, was all Messiah as the Falcons got out to a 3-0 lead by the 55th minute. Junior captain, Allie Zazzali had the only goal for the Blue Jays on Sunday against Messiah, in the 56th minute, bringing the Blue Jays within two scores. But the

## M. soccer falls to Messiah in Sweet Sixteen

By MARCEL DUARTE  
Staff Writer

With over 2,000 screaming fans, Messiah College had all the advantages on the night of the NCAA Tournament Sweet 16 game. The Hopkins Men's soccer team knew that they were the complete underdogs going into the game against the defending national champions, but that did not deter them from playing some great soccer. The Jays wrapped up their season in a tough fashion, losing 3-2 in double overtime.

Bundled up in black and baby blue, the Hopkins faithful cheered on their Jays as the surreal first half finished up with the Jays up 2-0 against top-ranked Messiah.



FILE PHOTO

Chand Balfour and the Jays fell in double-overtime.

Going into the game, the Falcons had only let up six goals at home for the entire season, and

within 22 minutes, that number had increased by two.

Starting things off early for the Jays, Senior Max Venker let one rip on target in the 16th minute that rebounded off of Messiah keeper Jared Clugston. As the ball bounced around in the box, Junior Scott Bukoski did what he does best and finished it in the back of the net for his 16th goal of the season. The Jays were ecstatic and focused their newfound confidence in applying pressure and controlling possession in the attacking end for most of the half. The

SEE M. SOCCER, PAGE B10

## BLUE JAY ATHLETICS SCOREBOARD

**M. BASKETBALL**  
**Pride of Maryland Tourn.**  
**Friday, November 20:**  
Hopkins 75, Stevenson 53  
**Saturday, November 21:**  
Hopkins 62, Hood 65  
**Sunday, November 22:**  
Hopkins 58, Salisbury 53

**W. SOCCER**  
**NCAA Sectionals**  
**Saturday, November 21:**  
Hopkins 1, Middlebury 0  
**Sunday, November 22:**  
Hopkins 1, Messiah 3

**W. CROSS COUNTRY**  
**NCAA Championship**  
7th place out of 32.

**WATER POLO**  
**Eastern Championship**  
**Friday, November 20:**  
Hopkins 11, Fordham 10  
**Saturday, November 21:**  
Hopkins 7, Navy 12  
**Sunday, November 22:**  
Hopkins 9, Bucknell 10

**FOOTBALL**  
**NCAA Second Round**  
**Saturday, November 28:**  
Hopkins 31, Thomas More 29  
**M. SOCCER**  
**NCAA Sectionals**  
**Friday, November 6:**  
Hopkins 2, Messiah 3 (2OT)

**W. BASKETBALL**  
**Mike Durgala Memorial**  
**Saturday, November 21:**  
Hopkins 71, Wheaton 37  
**Sunday, November 20:**  
Hopkins 49, Mary Wash. 54  
**Tuesday November 24:**  
Hopkins 73, Ursinus 63  
**Sunday, November 29:**  
Hopkins 75, York 66

**WRESTLING**  
At Red Dragon Invitational  
9th place out of 12

## INSIDE

### No Horsing Around: Equestrian at JHU

How two students, four horses and a lot of enthusiasm might just create an equestrian team at Hopkins. Find out the challenges they face and what they hope to accomplish. **Page B10**

### Athlete of the Week: Alex Lachman

Kickers are often looked down upon in the football world. But junior Alex Lachman has tried to break the stereotype at Hopkins. The All-American is this week's Athlete of the Week. **Page B11**

### Women's Basketball: Second place finish

The Blue Jays fell just short in the Mike Durgala Memorial Tournament, falling to Mary Washington in the finals. But the Jays showed promise for this upcoming season. **Page B11**